

*HISTORY OF THE WAKE BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION*

*ITS AUXILIARIES AND CHURCHES*

*1866-1966*

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ASSOCIATION***

***ITS AUXILIARIES AND CHURCHES***

***1866-1966***

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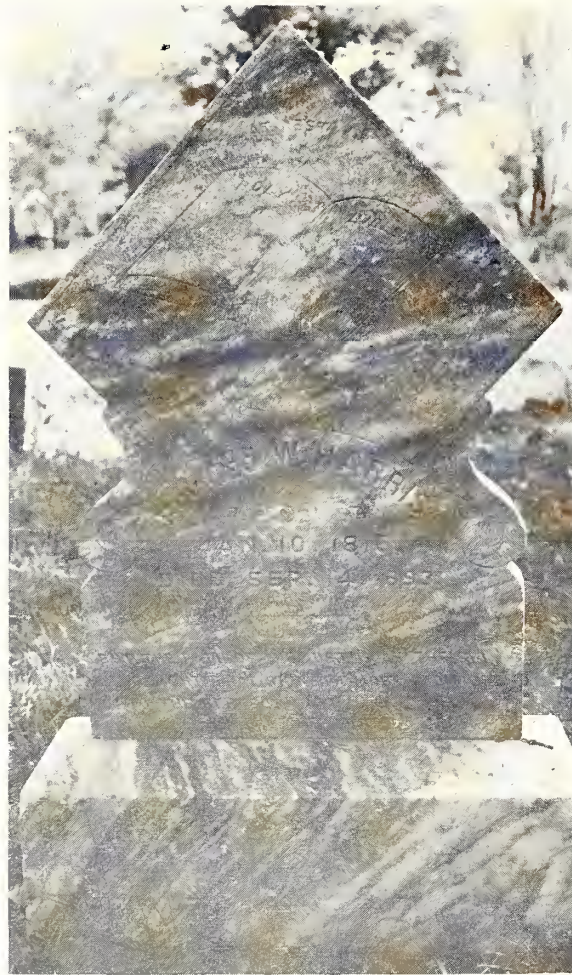
## Preface

As the Wake Baptist Association neared the Century Mark, the question of a written history became paramount in some of the brethrens' minds. At the ninety-eighth Annual Session, held with the Baptist Grove Church, the Moderator, Dr. George S. Stokes, made the following recommendations: "That a Historical Commission be named, headed by Reverend C. R. Trotter, to contact the churches for their subscription in making history of this Association." It was not until the Centennial Session held at Riley Hill, near Wendell, North Carolina that the work got under way.

Realizing the tremendous influence that the Wake Baptist Association has made upon the entire life of Wake, Franklin and Johnston counties, other adjourning counties, the state, the nation, and the world: It seems proper and fitting to record and preserve the work of this great body. The contribution that the Wake Association has made is an integral part of the Baptist witness of the world. In the early days of its history, the Reverend Caesar Johnson and A. W. Pegues were helping in the formation and organization of the National Baptist Convention, Inc. in Montgomery, Alabama in 1890.

I believe that the contribution of this Association is so noteworthy, that I undertake the painstaking task of putting together their story in written form. It is almost unbelievable the work these early pioneers did so soon following slavery.

In searching for materials, no written records were found prior to 1876; that year the Association met with the Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon. The next document was the Minutes of 1879 held with the First Baptist Church, Smithfield, North Carolina. After 1879 no chronological Minutes of meetings were found, but enough were found to put together the board outline of this history.



**Tomb of Reverend George W. Harris, First Moderator of the Wake Baptist Association. Cemetery Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina.**

# *Acknowledgement*

My sincere thanks goes to Mr. John R. Woodard, Jr., Director of Baptist Historical Collection, Wake Forest College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina for making available to me the minutes of 1879, 1881, 1882, 1889, 1893, 1898, 1900, 1901, 1904, 1905, 1912, 1914, 1916, 1919, 1922, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1930, 1932, 1935; Sunday School Convention — 1938, 1943, 1944 and 1946.

I am also grateful to Mr. Edward C. Starr, Curator and Secretary of The American Baptist Historical Society, 1106 South Goodman Street, Rochester, New York, for making the following minutes available to me: 1885, 1886, 1888, 1889, 1892, 1905, 1908, 1909, 1912 and 1925.

Mr. H. Eugene McLeod and the Library Staff of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary have been of great assistance to me for the use of the minutes of Raleigh Baptist Association and certain copies of the minutes of the Wake Baptist Association.

The Library Staff of Shaw University made available to me the Diary of Dr. Henry Martin Tupper, which records some of the names of students of the first class of that institution. This gave some insight of some of our early leaders. Dr. Wilmouth Carter who also let me review her records on Dr. Tupper.

Dr. Paul H. Johnson of the Martin Street Baptist Church and the Reverend Willie B. Lewis of the Fayetteville Street Baptist Church gave their time at Wake Forest College in search of original documents. To them, I am very grateful.

My thanks to Mrs. Hazel W. Thompson of Graham, North Carolina and Mrs. A. M. Hinton of Raleigh, North Carolina for typing the entire manuscript.

My sincere gratitude goes to my wife, Edna, who constantly gave me encouragement under difficult circumstances.

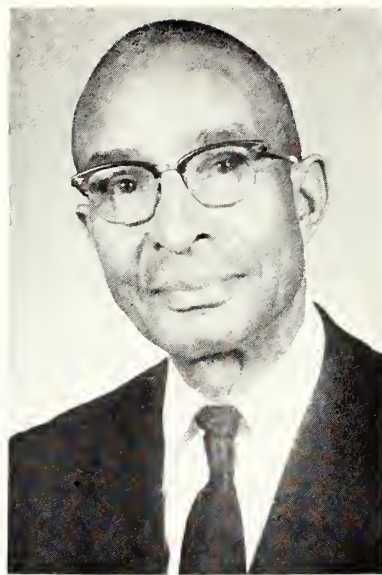
As this little work goes forth into the world, If I have preserved something of the labors and contributions of our early pioneer preachers and churches to the Baptist Witness of Wake County, North Carolina, the nation and the world, and when the final chapters of the Christian Witness is told, if this small segment has been worth telling, my labours will not have been in vain.

The history will follow two general lines: The first part of the book will be a History of the Wake Baptist Association. I shall attempt to tell the religious life of the Negro when he was a part of the white church, then trace his journey as a separate unit until the present time and discuss his early efforts at missions, education and benevolence.

The second part of the book will deal with Auxiliaries of the Association such as the Wake County Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Conventions. The Ministers' and Deacons' Union, now the Union of the Wake Association. The Woman's Auxiliary and the History of the various churches comprising the Wake Association. This section of the book will be more of an editing (by me) than direct composition. Each church was asked to form a Historical Committee and submit their history.

Claude Russell Trotter, Sr.





# History of The Wake Baptist Association

ITS AUXILIARIES AND CHURCHES

DEDICATE THIS HISTORY TO

**DR. GEORGE S. STOKES, MODERATOR, 1938-1971**

Since it was under Moderator Stokes that this History got under way it is but natural that this little volume is dedicated in his memory.

George Signal Stokes, Sr., born in Nash County, North Carolina — 1904. At an early age, Dr. Stokes was converted to Christianity and was baptized in the Stokes Chapel Baptist Church in middlesex, North Carolina.

Dr. Stokes received his education in Elementary School in Nash County; High School; Shaw University, 1922; Bachelor of Arts, 1930-31, respectively. In later years he did further advanced work at A&T State University, Greensboro; North Carolina Central University, Durham, North Carolina and University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In recognition of his work and worth, Shaw University honored him with the Doctor of Divinity, 1960.

Dr. Stokes' early pastorates include First Baptist, Bailey, where he organized the church. He pastored the First Baptist Church, Seaboard, North Carolina and the Mount Sinai Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, North Carolina, 1933-1935. In 1923, Dr. Stokes was called to Riley Hill Baptist Church where he served until his death in 1973. Other churches our subject pastored were Oak City Baptist Church, Method. 1926-42; Friendship Baptist Church, Forestville, Wake Baptist Grove, Garner. He also served as president of Nash County Sunday School and Baptist Training Union Convention for a long tenure.

In 1932 he became Principal of the Elementary School at Bailey, North Carolina, where he served for a period of 22 years. During his administration the school made great progress in contributing to the educational and cultural life of the community. In 1954, the school was consolidated with the Spaulding High School, Spring Hope, North Carolina where he served as instructor until his retirement.

Prior to the elevation of Dr. Stokes to the moderatorship of the Wake Baptist Association in 1938, he served as clerk from 1925 succeeding the long tenure of Dr. N. F. Roberts who served for 35 years about 1890 to 1925.

He was married to Miss Armittie Wiggins of Cofield, North Carolina in 1931. In addition to his wife, his immediate family consists of one son, George, Jr., who is married to Laura Frances Vaughn, and two granddaughters, Brenda Faye and Carolyn Denese.

# **Chapter I — Silver Years — 1866-1891**

- a. Reverend George Harris — 1866
- b. Reverend Joshua Perry — 1881
- c. Central Orphanage (Grant Colored)
- d. Reverend Joseph Perry
- e. Wake Association — Mother of Johnston District Association —  
1886
- f. Reverend P. F. Malloy



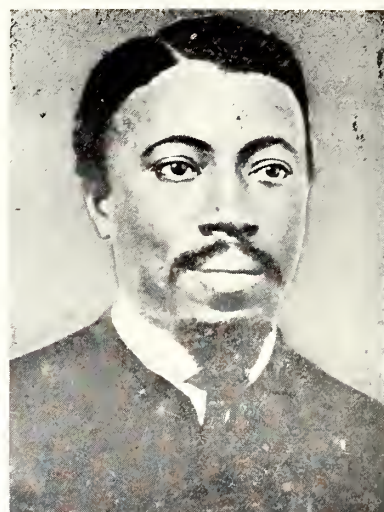
# Pioneers



**Reverend Henry M. Tupper**



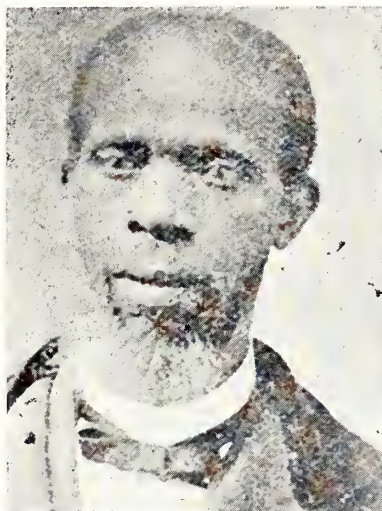
**Dr. Augustus Shepard**



**Reverend William A. Green**



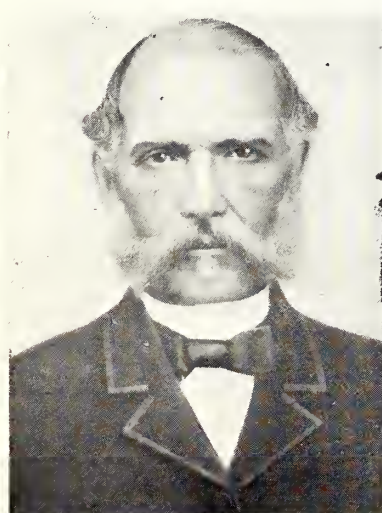
**Reverend W. T. Coleman**



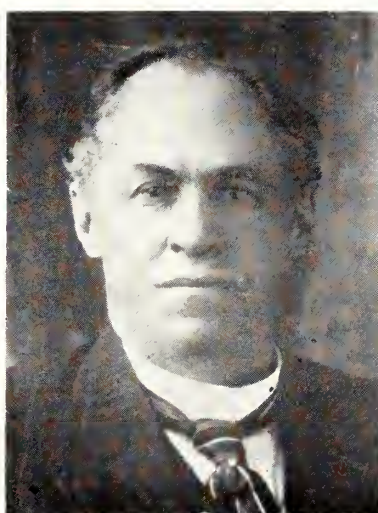
**Reverend George Washington Perry**



**Reverend A. W. Pegues**



**Dr. J. J. Worlds**



**Dr. N. F. Roberts**  
1890-1925



**Reverend C. H. Williamson**

## CHAPTER I — THE SILVER YEARS

In an attempt to write a History of the Wake Baptist Association a word or so about the history of the county is in order.

"Wake County was erected in 1770 from Orange, Johnston, and Cumberland. The trouble arising from the oppression and extortion in this year, induced Governor Tryon to divide Orange County into three divisions; Guilford, Chatham, and Wake; Wake was so called in compliments to the maiden name of Governor Tryon's wife, Margaret Wake. The History of Raleigh 1700-1860 states that the first house within one hundred miles reputedly was 'Wakefield' home of Colonel Joel Lane. He and his brothers had come here in 1741 when the area was part of Johnston County. About 1760 Colonel Lane built Wakefield and in it was held Wake's first court session in June, 1771." (1)

To give us some understanding of the population in this period, I quote Summary of Census, State of North Carolina: They were recorded under the different categories: "White Males, White Females:

### Wake County

White Male	7,876	White Female	8,453	Total	16,329
Black Male	128	Black Female	122	Total	250
Mulatto Male	578	Mulatto Female	578	Total	1,156

### Johnston County

White Male	5,263	White Female	5,275	Total	10,538
Black Male	30	Black Female	24	Total	54
Mulatto Male	70	Mulatto Female	71	Total	141

### Franklin County

White Male	3,223	White Female	3,239	Total	6,562
Black Male	128	Black Female	135	Total	263
Mulatto Male	152	Mulatto	151	Total	303

### Orange County

White Male	5,513	White Female	5,774	Total	11,287
Black Male	87	Black Female	80	Total	167
Mulatto Male	171	Mulatto Female	190	Total	361

I have submitted the above statistics to give us an idea of the composition of population out of which the Raleigh Association — 1805, and the Wake Baptist Association — 1866, were composed. "Its products, in 1840 were 2,391,996 pounds of cotton, 535,274 bushels of corn; 38,379 bushels of wheat; 79,011 bushels of oats; 54,247 pounds of tobacco; and 1,178 pounds of wool." (2) The products and production of the county gives us something of interest and occupation of its people. Farming was the principal occupation as you can well discern. It is in this setting our religious bodies both churches and association had their meager beginnings.

Baptist in North Carolina have made considerable contribution to the Christian Witness in the several counties of North Carolina, as well as other sections of the United States and the world. It is the purpose of this little study to tell development and growth of the Negroes' contribution to the Baptist Witness of the Wake Baptist Association. Dr. George Washington Pascall has pretty much told the story of our white brethren of North Carolina. In more recent years, Dr. M. A. Huggans has retold the same story. Up to this time, no one has told the story of the Wake Baptist Association, Dr. J. W. Whitted



has presented some of the early labours of many of our pioneers. The purpose of this book is to trace the origin of the Negro Baptist prior to the Civil War, their meager beginnings at organization of churches and especially the Wake Baptist Association.

As far I am able to ascertain, the Wake Baptist Association is one of the oldest such Negro bodies in North Carolina. The Rowan Baptist Association, around Salisbury, claims the year of 1867 as its birth under the leadership of Reverend Harvey Cowans. The Cedar Grove Association, around the vicinity of Person and Caswell counties, claims the year 1867, but the Wake claims the year of 1866 as its birthday.

The Wake Baptist Association seems to be the Mother of all such Negro bodies in this state. It is my candid opinion that the Raleigh Baptist Association which claims its birth date 1805 had some influence upon Negro organizations. We do know that the Negroes, both free and slaves, were in white churches prior to 1865. According to the record of the Tar River Association, there was a Negro Congregation represented in that Association prior to 1865. William Richard Eaton states in his book, **History of The Raleigh Baptist Association of North Carolina**: "The report of the Historian to the Association in 1940 affirmed that 'a hundred and thirty-five years ago it was born, sired by the old Kehukee Association. . . Four churches constituted the Association — Wake Cross Roads, Cool Springs, Wake Liberty, and Holly Spring."

When the slaves were put out of the white churches, it did not take long for the black brethren to organize their own churches and associations. Because of the lack of the early records, the circumstances of the constitution of the Wake Baptist Association is not altogether clear. It is believed that Dr. Henry Martin Tupper was in the organization. We know that Dr. Tupper with his young bride came to Raleigh, N. C. in the interest of the newly freed slaves in the Fall of 1865. He had been a chaplain in the Union Army. He organized his first class of preachers and deacons in the Old Guyon Hotel, then situated on Fayetteville Street. The first class records some of the names who were to be the leading spirits of the Association. The Reverend Augustus Shepard and Reverend Caesar Johnson are cases in point. It has been my pleasure to know some people who knew Reverend Caesar Johnson. The Reverend Johnny Jones, Pastor of the Fayetteville Street Baptist Church described him as a "great preacher." I have heard Miss Susan Wilcox, a member of the Oak City Baptist Church; Method, where I labored from 1944-1961 describe him as a "brilliant man."

From all available records, the Wake Baptist Association was organized in the year of 1866. The exact date is unknown; the exact place is unknown but believed to be the Blount Street Baptist Church, now Tupper Memorial Baptist Church. The only thing that is known with some degree of certainty is the names of some of the original officers. J. A. Whitted in his book, **History of the Negro Baptist of North Carolina** state: "The Wake Baptist Association was organized with Reverend George W. Harris as Moderator, G. W. Freeman, (J. W. Freeman) as clerk" Dr. J. J. Worlds was also in the organization.

A second source which establishes the year of 1866 as the date of birth of the Wake Baptist Association is the first available minute. The date is August 13, 14, and 15, 1879. The Minutes state: "Minutes of the Thirteenth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association held with the church at Smithfield, Johnston County, North Carolina." This means, thirteen years had elapsed since the organization of the Association.

All the information I found on Reverend George Harris comes from his tomb stone found in the cemetery of Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina: "Reverend Geo. W. Harris,

**January 10, 1816, Died September 14, 1893. But the path of the just is as the shining light that shineth more and more onto the perfect day."**

**From this information we can judge that Reverend Harris was born in slavery time. He could have been born a "free Negro" or he could have been born a "slave." At any rate he must have been a man with some ability and wisdom for he seems to have led this body in its infancy for about fifteen years and served as its treasurer for some years after serving as its first moderator. If the record is correct, Reverend Harris was elected moderator when he was fifty years old. He must have been held in very high esteem by his colleagues to have occupied such high position in the association.**

By the fact, this venerable old gentleman rests upon the sacred soil of Olive Branch Baptist Church, it is my opinion that he was perhaps their first pastor, or played some significant part in their life. This is purely speculation.

To give us an idea of the early years of the Wake Baptist Association, I submit the Roll for the year 1878, ninety-one years ago.

First Baptist, Raleigh — Wm. A. Green and T. Burns

Friendship Chapel — C. Johnson, A. L. Smith and Jeremiah Scarborough

Martin Street Baptist — T. B. Edwards

Gethsemane — Joshua Jones and Allen Thomas

Jones Chapel — P. T. Hall, Jr., Wm. Deadman (Debnam)

Good Samaritan — T. B. Edwards, A. Perry

Wakefield — E. Lucas, B. D. Dunn

New Bethel — C. H. Montague, A. B. Fleming

Saint Ormandy — Menon Turner, Bithin McCullers

New Providence — C. Davis, Andrew Clemons

Riley Hill — By Letter

Oakey Grove — L. V. Booth

Olive Branch — G. W. Harris, H. L. Cook

Holly Springs — Samuel Clemons, Thomas Clemons

Liberty — A. Harris, J. H. Smith, R. Perry

Will's Chapel — W. H. Whitt, H. C. Pettiford

Piney Grove, Johnston County — T. C. Pool, Thomas Hodge

Macedonia — By Letter

Old S. T. — By Letter

New Delight — D. Tucker, H. Jerry Mangrum

Military — Jessie Pearce

Baptist Grove — D. Tucker

Bethlehem — James Chavis, R. Murdock

Louisburg — Joshua Perry

Earps Boro — By Letter

Chester Grove — James Chavis

Juniper Level — D. Rand

Mount Pleasant — John Dunn, Issac Lunsford

Clayton — Q. C. Mial, S. B. Smith

Spring Hill — By Letter

Green Hill — J. Perry, P. T. Young

Franklinton — J. A. Feller, M. J. Joyner

Zoar — T. B. Edwards

Springfield — L. Haywood, D. Pool.” (7)

Thirteen years after the birth of the Association we note thirty-four churches represented. Realizing the difficulty of travel, the scarcity of population, and the further fact that the territory comprising the Association was primarily agricultural, this was a mammoth step. Another factor to be borne in mind that this was the very first stage of independent Negro churches. Their economic status must have been meager indeed. It must also be remembered that the educational status of churches was very low, both the clergy and the laity.

This first available minute reveals another fact, the total amount of money raised for the year 1879 was \$117.91. The balance from 1878 was \$26.30. At this early stage of our history, the Association had as one of its objectives the fostering of education.

Another fact this early Minute reveals is several of these churches were in other counties such as Gethsemane, Liberty, Louisburg, Franklinton in Franklin County, Good Samaritan, Oakey Grove, Piney Grove, Spring Hill and Green Hill in Johnston. Since these early days some of these churches have made the Johnston District Association which will be dealt with at length in a later chapter. As far as my knowledge goes, I do not know what became of Saint Ormandy, Will's Chapel, Chester Grove, Old S. T., Military nor Earps Boro. Some of these churches have begun on their second century of service.

As early as 1879, the Wake Association's influence was felt in Wake, Franklin, and Johnston counties. During these early days, the Association extended over a wide area geographically. We know that her borders reached to Hillsboro, North Carolina, also.

This particular year the minutes state: “Minutes of Thirteen Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association held with the Church at Smithfield, Johnston County, North Carolina, August 13th, 14th and 15th, 1879.” (8)

To get a further prospective of this religious body, the Constitution will give us something of the philosophy of these early pioneers:

**“Article I** This body shall be denominated and known as the ‘Wake Baptist Association.’

**Article II** The object of this Association shall be the promotion of Christ's Kingdom among men; and the means of accomplishing this shall be in strict conformity to the New Testament.

**Article III** This Association shall be composed of delegates chosen by the churches connected with it — each church being entitled to two or more delegates. Ministers who are members of the churches connected with this body shall be considered members of the Association ex officio. Any minister who is not in charge of, or connected by membership with churches within the bounds of this Association, and who present testimonial of good standing in the Baptist denomination, may become members of the Association by the payment of one dollar annually: Provided, ministers who aided in the organization of this Association shall be considered members so long as they are in good standing in the Baptist denomination.



**Article IV** The delegates from each church shall bear a letter certifying their appointment, giving an account of the condition of the church, and a statement of all funds contributed for benevolent purposes during the year.

**Article V** The officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and Auditor, who shall be elected annually by the Association. In addition to these, there shall be appointed annually by the Moderator, an Executive Board of seven, an Educational Board of five, a Home Mission Board of five and a Foreign Mission Board of five members.

**Article VI** It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside during the deliberations of the body, to enforce an observance of the Constitution, preserve decorum, appoint committees, decide all questions of order, give his opinion concerning any subject under discussion after others have spoken, or when called upon, and give the casting vote in case of a tie.

**Article VII** It shall be the duty of the Clerk to record the proceedings of each annual session, and superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes among the churches.

**Article VIII** It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds sent up by the churches, or collected during the session of this body, and disburse the same for the purpose for which they were sent or collected. He shall not pay any order drawn on the Treasury except it is signed by the Moderator and the Clerk of the Association, subject to the provision in the Bylaws.

**Article IX** Any church desiring to become a member of this body shall present her petition at any annual session of the Association, through delegates appointed for that purpose, and if the Association shall consent to receive her, the Moderator shall extend to the delegate the right hand of fellowship.

**Article X** The Association shall not maintain fellowship with any church or churches that neglect to preserve gospel order.

**Article XI** The Association may invite visiting brethren to seats, and extend to them all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

**Article XII** The Annual session of this body shall commence on Wednesday before the third Sabbath in August, at such place as the Association may select.

**Article XIII** The ministers composing the Association shall hold three ministerial meetings a year, in such places as brethren may designate.

**Article XIV** We will receive no minister into this Association but those who have a good moral character.

**Article XV** We will withdraw the right hand of fellowship from each minister who walks disorderly and contrary to the Gospel rule.

**Article XVI** Each church connected with this Association may continue its membership by paying three cents annually upon the head of each of its members. This fund shall be known as a Minute Fund. In addition to this, each church shall be asked annually to pledge certain amounts for missionary work and such other benevolents objects as the Association may undertake to carry forward.

**Article XVII** By appointment of the Association, there shall be preaching during each annual session an Introduction Sermon.

**Article XVIII** This Constitution may be amended at any annual session by a vote of two thirds of the members present.

## **BYLAWS**

**Section 1.** All moneys set from churches, societies and individuals shall be acknowledged in the minutes of the Association.

**Section 2.** Before the final adjournment of the Association all the funds, notes, etc., shall be counted by the Finance Committee and Treasurer. The Treasurer shall give the Finance Committee a receipt for the amount placed in his hands.

**Section 3.** The Treasurer, before receiving any funds from the Association, shall give a justified bond for a sum double the amount of that which may come into his hands, for the faithful performance of the duties of his office.

**Section 4.** No missionary or agent of the Association shall be Treasurer.

**Section 5.** The Treasurer shall refund all money paid out otherwise than specified in the Constitution.

**Section 6.** After the expenses of the Association shall have been paid, the remaining Associational funds shall be applied to such purpose as the Association shall direct. The Home Mission Board shall exercise the plans adopted by the Association.

**Section 7.** The Treasurer shall turn over to his successor all funds, notes, books and papers belonging to the Association, as soon as his successors shall give a bond as specified in the above sections.

**Section 8.** Should the newly elected Treasurer in any case fail to qualify.

**Section 9.** The Auditor shall audit the accounts of the Treasurer and make annual reports to the Association.

**Section 10.** The duties of the boards provided for in other similar bodies." (9)

This constitution and bylaws have been cited here to give us the breadth and depth of our pioneer leaders. For the most part, our present generation has not gone much farther in structure and philosophy. We must keep in mind that this was less than twenty years after the organization of the Association.

The first twenty-five years of the life of the Wake Baptist Association saw great phenomenal growth. The philosophy and direction had been cast as set forth in its constitution. During this early period the leadership were Reverend George W. Harris who was the first Moderator and J. W. Freeman, clerk; the Reverend Joshua Perry the second Moderator and Mr. John Beckwith, clerk; Reverend Joseph Perry seemed to have been the next Moderator. Somewhere around 1890, Dr. N. F. Roberts became clerk and served continuously for the next thirty-five years.

It is noteworthy that Dr. J. J. Worlds, in his Annual Address at Holly Springs in 1901 made some interesting observations. He said that he saw only two other persons, other than himself, who were in the organization. They were Reverend Caesar Johnson and Reverend Augustus Shepard. Dr. Henry Martin Tupper and Reverend George W. Harris had already gone to their reward.

Some of the other leaders who served the Association during the first twenty-five years of its existence were the Perry brothers — Joshua and G. W. from Louisburg, North Carolina. Dr. A. W. Pegues says of these brothers in his book: **OUR BAPTIST MINISTERS AND SCHOOLS.**

"In 1863 young George Perry professed hope in Christ, and join-

ed the Baptist Church at Louisburg, North Carolina . . . January 1868 in company with his brother, he set out to Raleigh, met Dr. Tupper, the principal of the school, whose kind treatment made the two strangers feel at home." Both of these brothers served in the bounds of the Association, Reverend G. W. at Macedonia and New Bethel, Rolesville.

About the close of the first twenty-five years found the leadership of the Association in the hands of the following officers.

Moderator, Reverend J. Perry, Louisburg, North Carolina; Clerk, Dr. N. F. Roberts, Raleigh, North Carolina; Treasurer, Reverend G. W. Harris, Neuse, North Carolina; Auditor, Reverend P. F. Malloy, Raleigh, North Carolina.

The year 1889 found the Reverend P. F. Malloy as the Moderator and Dr. Roberts as Clerk. Reverend Malloy is buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Raleigh, North Carolina.

#### **THE INFLUENCE OF THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION ON THE GRANT COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM NOW THE CENTRAL ORPHANAGE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

From about 1865 to 1900 was a period of organization for many independent Associations and religious bodies throughout North Carolina. The Wake Baptist Association claims as its birth the year of 1866. The Original Shiloh Missionary Baptist Association claims its birth August 1, 1869. The idea of a home for neglected children

was conceived in the heart and mind of Reverend Augustus Shepard, as he traveled throughout the state. Dr. J. W. Whitted states in his book, "History of the Negro Baptist of North Carolina:" "It was in the Wake Association that the Oxford Asylum was conceived. A committee was appointed to meet with others in Henderson, and as result of this conference the Grant Colored Orphan Asylum was established."

"At a later meeting the Association set out to find a suitable location for the prospective home. Many difficulties were encountered and in October, 1883, a farm of twenty-three acres located one and one-half miles from Oxford on the Raleigh Road, was obtained for \$1,565.00. . . The Orphanage was named the 'Grant Colored Asylum.'

In 1887 the "Grant Colored Asylum" ceased to exist and "The Colored Orphanage Asylum of North Carolina" was incorporated. The names of the Board were: Reverends Augustus Shepard, Joshua Perry, the Moderator of the Wake Association and the first superintendent of the Orphanage. Other names of the board were: Reverend W. A. Patillo, Reverend Isaac Alston, Reverend J. W. Leavy, Mr. W. F. Thornton, Mr. W. E. Long, Mr. Henry Hester and Honorable H. P. Cheatham.

Our concern here was to show the humanitarian gesture of the Wake Association. This institution of Child Care for the homeless is one of the Objectives of our Association at the present time.

#### **WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION: MOTHER OF JOHNSTON ASSOCIATION**

Twenty years, 1866 after the constitution of the Wake Baptist Association, 1886, a daughter was born, the Johnston Association (Johnston District Association). As was suggested in the early part of our study, the Wake Baptist Association extended over several counties: Wake, Franklin, Durham, Orange and Johnston.

In the Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association held at Liberty Baptist Church, August 11, 12 and 13, 1886: "A petition signed by Reverend E. B. Blake, R. R. Johnson and others for letters of dismission to form a new Association was read.

A Committee of seven, consisting of brethren G. W. Perry, N. F. Roberts, A. Thomas, G. W. Harris, M. Joyner, A. B. Fleming and W. H. Perry were appointed to confer with the signers of the petition as the propriety of forming a new Association." (1)

From available sources, the Johnston Association must have met some months following the petitioning the Wake for a letter of dismissal. 1886 is the accepted year of their constitution. J. W. Whitted states in his book, A History of the Negro Baptist of North Carolina, published by Presses of Edwards and Broughton Printing Company, 1908 states: "This Association



was organized in Piney Grove Church, Johnston County. The Johnston Association was once a part of the Wake Association. Reverend E. B. Blake, P. T. Young, R. R. Johnson, John Jefferson, Charles Thompson, James Chavis, S. B. Smith, J. O. Poole, W. A. Jones were in the organization. Reverend E. B. Blake, who was then the acknowledged leader, was elected the first Moderator; Reverend W. A. Jones, who afterward took the leadership, was the first Clerk." (2)

Whitted says there were eleven churches in the organization. We know the churches of Smithfield, Clayton, Selma, Lee's Cross Road, Good Samaritan Oak Grove, Mount Moriah, Piney Grove, Stanhope, Nelson's Chapel, Chestnut Grove, Pilgrim's Rest Jerusalem Baptist, Hall's Chapel, Green Hill were listed in the Minutes of 1885. The same year the committee on reception of churches, "Zoar church was admitted." And Mount Olive Baptist was dismissed to unite with New Hope Association.

The Minutes of 1889, session held Juniper Level Baptist Church, August 14, 1889 list the following churches, Pastors and delegates. It is interesting to note that the churches of Johnston county are not mentioned such as Smithfield, Selma, Clayton, Piney Grove, Okey Grove, Lee's Cross Road which indicate they were no longer affiliated with the Wake Baptist Association.

The Wake Baptist Association Roll was as follows:

First Baptist Church, Raleigh — Reverend J. J. Worlds, Jos. Perry and J. J. Russell.

Liberty — Reverend P. F. Maloy, Brothers H. M. Perry and I. W. Cook.

Riley Hill — Brothers. John Ferrell, J. C. Jones, Reverend H. Pair.

Franklinton — Reverend J. A. Pierce.

Hall's Chapel — Reverend Jos. Perry, Brothers Wm. Rand and Chas. Poole.

Friendship Chapel — Reverend J. C. Poole, Brothers Lewis Alston, and O. C. Avery.

Saint Matthew's — Reverend Harmon Pair, Brothers R. S. Morgan and J. P. Jeffreys

Juniper Level — Reverend D. S. Saulter, Brothers J. R. Walton, Henry Turner and A. Smith.

Malaby's Cross Roads — Reverend H. Pair, Brothers Jos. Height, John Evans.

Baptist Grove — Reverend P. T. Hall, Brother Clayborne Fletcher.

New Bethel — Reverend G. W. Perry, Brothers A. B. Fleming, I. C. Jeffreys.

Elount Street, Raleigh — Reverend N. F. Roberts, D.D., Professor S. N. Vass.

Olive Branch — Brothers J. D. Kearney, J. T. Thompson, D. Young.

Good Hope — Reverend R. Shepherd, Brothers Cone-ly Bryant, Paschall Williams, J. Richardson.

New Providence — Brothers H. W. Jones, P. Collins, A. B. Jones.

Elizabeth — Reverend Ed. Rice, Brothers P. P. Perry, J. R. Warren, W. M. Rogers.

Gethsemane — Reverend H. Pair, Brothers Allen Thomas, Weston Jones.

Mount Moriah — Reverend R. Shepherd, Brother F. J. Freeman.

Bethlehem — Brothers Robert Chavis, W. A. Jones, Edward Chavis

Pleasant Grove — Brothers Rufus Ferrell, Caesar Wright.

Hillsboro — Brother A. Whitted.

Chestnut Grove — Brothers S. P. Boylan, Thomas Evans, M. V. Waller.

Rocky Point — Brothers Telfair Lucas, William Coleman.

Holly Springs — Reverend P. F. Maloy, Brothers Robert Fuquay, M. C. Betts, Samuel Clements.

(2) Whitted, J. A. A History of the Negro Baptist of North Carolina Presses of Edward and Broughton Printing Company, Raleigh, North Carolina P. 95.

Union Grove — By Letter.

Little Zion — Reverend Robert Shepherd, Brother Isaac Freeman.

Macedonia — Reverend G. W. Perry, Brother B. D. Debnam.

Red Oak Grove — Brothers W. M. Rogers, Banner Ricks.

Jones' Chapel — By Letter.

Nelson's Chapel — Reverend P. T. Hall, Brother L. Davis

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association 1886 Liberty Baptist Church, Franklin County, North Carolina. Page 8.
2. Whitted, J. W. A History of the Negro Baptist of North Carolina. Presses of Edward and Broughton Printing Company, Raleigh, North Carolina. P. 95
3. Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association 1889 Juniper Level Baptist Church.



## **Chapter II — The Golden Years**

**a. Dr. J. J. Worlds — 1901 ?**

**b. Dr. J. W. Ligon — 1812-1916**

## LIST OF MODERATORS OF THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1866-1966

Reverend George W. Harris, 1866-1879 ? Neuse, North Carolina

Reverend Joshua Perry, 1880 ? Louisbug, North Carolina

Reverend Joseph Perry, 1885 ?

Reverend P. F. Maloy, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. J. J. Worlds, 1901-1912 ? Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. J. W. Ligon, 1912-1925, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. G. W. Watkins, 1925-1927, Raleigh, North Carolina

Dr. M. W. Williams, 1927-1938, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. George S. Stokes, 1938-1966, Middlesex, North Carolina

## LIST OF CLERKS OF THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

1866-1966

Reverend (J) G. W. Freeman, 1866

Brother John Beckwith, 1889 (Member of First Baptist Church) Raleigh,  
North Carolina

Dr. Nicholas Franklin Roberts, 1890-1925 — 35 years

Reverend George S. Stokes, 1925-1938

Reverend C. A. Marriott, 1939

Reverend W. A. Perry, 1940

Reverend Otis E. Dunn, 1940-1946

Reverend C. R. Trotter, 1947-1960

Reverend C. C. Jones 1960-1966

## CHAPTER II

### THE GOLDEN YEARS 1891-1916

For convenience we have labeled the second period leading up to the half century mark as the Golden Years. It is unfortunate that during this period of our history, some of the minutes are lost. The year 1893 found the Reverend Joseph Perry as Moderator; Dr. N. F. Roberts, Clerk; C. H. Williamson, treasurer and Reverend G. W. Perry as auditor. This session was held with the New Providence Baptist Church near Fuquay.

Among the major objectives of the Association at this time was special study for those men aspiring for the ministry. The Association sponsored the following courses: "Reading, writing, arithmetic, United States History, systematic theology (Pendleton) The Church (Harvey), Deaconship (Howell), Church Discipline (Hiscox), Homiletics (Broadus) and History of the Baptist Denomination."

This course of study was adopted unanimously by the Association. The churches with in the bounds were to see that no person who could not pass satisfactorily a minimum of the above fundamentals be ordained to the Gospel Ministry.

Another objective of the Association was assistance to the Grant Orphan Asylum as it was known at that time. The Reverend Robert Shepard was the superintendent during the early nineties. He presented one of the students from the Orphanage who was able to name all the books of the Bible.

The total salary for all pastors for the year 1893 was \$3,197.00; money collected for home mission \$67.43; Foreign Mission \$39.15 and the Orphan Asylum \$77.32.

Another noteworthy custom of the Association was preaching under the arbor. This was a shelter made of poles and covered over with brush. There were home made benches placed in the stands with a rude type of pulpit. Services of a business nature would take place in the churches while singing and preaching would take place under the arbor. Different pastors and preachers would be assigned to this

part of the service. The Minutes of 1898 assigned Dr. J. J. Worlds to preach at the "stand."

The Thirty-fourth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association held with the Friendship Baptist Church, Forestville. Minutes show that Reverend J. J. Worlds was Moderator; Dr. N. F. Roberts was Clerk; Dr. A. W. Pegues as Treasurer, and Reverend G. W. Perry, auditor. Dr. Worlds tenure was from 1901 to 1912. He was the pastor of the First Baptist Church and served as pastor on two occasions; from February 1874 to 1880 and 1886 to 1902. It was while pastoring the church on his second tenure that he was the Moderator Wake Baptist Association. Dr. Worlds' biographical sketch says that he was born in Harnett County near Lillington, North Carolina.

The 1904 Session of the Wake Association met with the New Providence Baptist Church; the 1905 session met with St. Matthew Baptist Church and the 1906 Session met with Juniper Level Baptist Church. The 1912 Session was held with Mount Bright Baptist Church, Hillsborough, North Carolina. It was at this Session that Reverend J. W. Ligon the Vice Moderator was moved to the Moderator's chair; Dr. Roberts was continued as clerk and Dr. Pegues continued as treasurer. This same year death claimed three of the Association's distinguished leaders in the person of Augustus Shepard, Reverend Joseph Perry, Moderator and G. W. Perry a pastor. The memorial services were conducted by Dr. J. J. Worlds, H. Pair, A. T. Price, H. T. Cooke and William Ellerby.

The 1913 Session met with the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. The 1914 Session met with Union Grove Baptist Church. The total membership for the Association reported that year was 7150 persons. This same year saw Dr. Worlds, the former Moderator go to his eternal rest.

Nineteen Hundred Sixteen marked fifty years of existence of the Wake Baptist Association. This Session was held with the Wake-

field Baptist Church August 16-17. Dr. Ligon was still the Moderator and Dr. Roberts was still clerk.

The pastoral roster of the Wake Baptist Association for the Golden Jubilee Year included: Bethlehem, Reverend C. C. Clark; Felts Chapel, Reverend R. W. Underwood; First Baptist, Franklinton, Dr. A. W. Pegues; Good Hope, Reverend A. B. Vincent; Gethsamane, Reverend Harmon Pair; Jones Hill, Reverend A. T. Price; Liberty, Reverend C. F. Pope; Main Street, Louisburg, Reverend J. H. Halbert; Mount Moriah, Reverend J. S. Davis; Martin Street, Reverend C. H. Mayes; Macedonia, Reverend M. L. Nicholson; Mount Pleasant, Wake, Reverend C. C. Clark; Mount Pleasant Franklinton, Reverend L. H. Brooks; Middlesex, Reverend J. S. Stanton; New Light, Reverend C. H. Dunn; Oak City, Reverend J. W. Jones; Pleasant Grove, Reverend A. T. Price; Springfield, Dr. J. W. Ligon; Spring Hope, Stoke's Chapel, Reverend C. H. Dunn; Wake Chapel, Reverend J. W. Jones; Wakefield, Dr. G. W. Moore; Friendship Chapel, Reverend J. W. Jones; Zebulon Baptist, Dr. G. W. Moore; South Park, Raleigh, Reverend John Dunston; Baptist Grove, Reverend R. B. Jones; First Baptist, Wilson, Reverend P. Watson; Holly Springs; Dr. G. W. Moore, Juniper Level, Reverend A. T. Price, Little Zion; Reverend P. S. Alston; Malaby's Cross Road, Reverend H. Pair, New Bethel, Reverend D. S. Salter, New Providence, Reverend W. A. Jones, Oberlin, Reverend S. H. Witherspoon, Old Liberty, Reverend R. J. Johnson, Olive Branch, Reverend M. C. Ransom, Riley Hill, Reverend H. Pair, Tupper Memorial, W. T. Coleman, Saint Matthew, Reverend H. Pair; Union Grove, Reverend W. T. Coleman, Union Baptist, Reverend D. J. Avery, Wendell Baptist, Reverend S. S. Hall, Woodland, Reverend W. H. Freeman.

The statistical report for the year of 1916 showed salaries paid to pastors by the churches amounted to \$6,817.00. The total membership for that same year was 7,030 persons.



# Later Leaders



**Reverend Harmon Pair**



**Dr. S. N. Vass**



**Reverend Robert Shepard**



**Reverend A. T. Price**



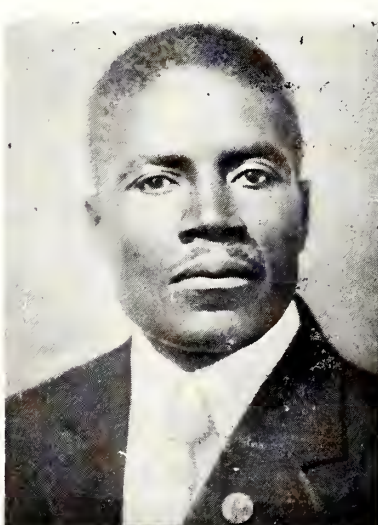
**Reverend William Ellerbe**



**Dr. G. W. Moore**



**Dr. C. E. Askew**



**Reverend J. W. Ligon**



**Reverend H. D. Eaton**

## **Chapter III — The Diamond Years — 1916-1941**

- a. Dr. J. W. Ligon — 1916-1925**
- b. Dr. G. W. Watkins — 1925-1927**
- c. Dr. M. W. Williams — 1927-1938**
- d. Dr. George S. Stokes — 1938-1941**



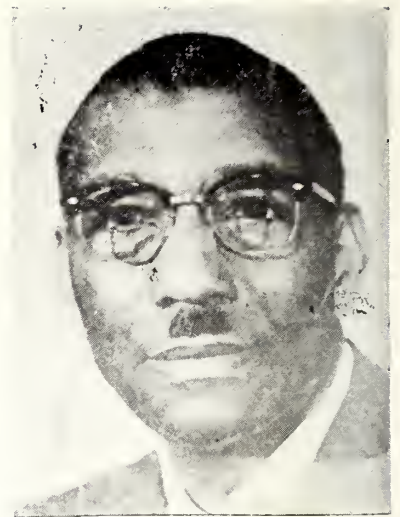
## Later Leaders



Reverend G. W. Watkins



Dr. A. B. Johnson



Reverend J. H. Clanton



Guyon Perry



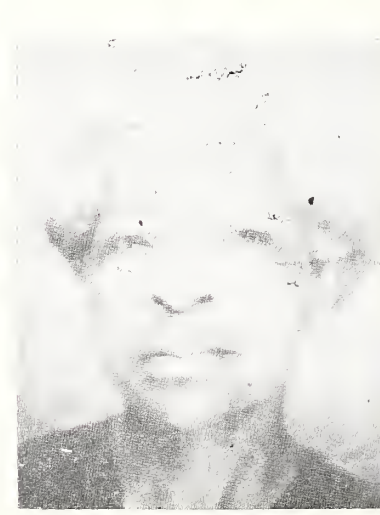
Robert Wilder



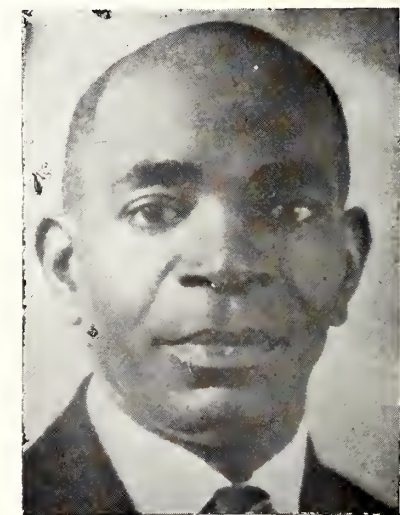
Reverend C. C. Jones



Dr. O. S. Bullock



Mrs. Bessie Barret



Reverend M. W. Williams  
Moderator — 1927-1938



## CHAPTER III

### THE DIAMOND YEARS

1916-1941

We have labeled this period of history from 1916 to 1941 as the Diamond Years of the Wake Association. The 1917 Session of the Wake Baptist Association was held with the Olive Branch Baptist Church. The Fifty-Third Session was held with the Holly Springs Baptist Church August 13-15, 1919. The 1920 Session was held with Springfield Baptist Church. The official roster for that year was: J. W. Ligon, Moderator; Harmon Pair, Vice Moderator; N. F. Roberts, Clerk; S. H. Witherspoon, Corresponding Secretary; C. C. Clark, Auditor, and W. H. Wray, Statistician; Reverend W. S. Turner, Dean at Shaw University was the pastor of the Church. At this time, the Constitution of the Association was amended to include the ~~Woman's~~ Auxiliary which was recently organized. Mrs. Bessie Barrett presented the Association \$60.00. There were forty churches represented that year with \$1,009.06 collected from churches, the public offering collected was \$58.43, the total receipts for that session were \$1,221.50.

The Ministerial Roster for this period was as follows: Baptist Grove, R. B. Jones; Bethlehem, Reverend H. M. Jones; Felts Chapel, Reverend R. B. Darden; Friendship, Reverend J. W. Jones; First Baptist, Franklinton, Dr. A. W. Pegues; First Baptist, Raleigh, Dr. C. E. Askew; First Baptist, Wendell, Reverend R. Crockett; Flat Rock, Reverend J. H. Jones; Good Hope, Reverend A. T. Price; Gethsemane, Reverend Harmon Pair; Holly Springs, Reverend W. S. Turner; Jones Hill, Reverend A. T. Price; Juniper Level, Reverend A. T. Price; Liberty, Reverend C. F. Pope; Little Zion, Reverend P. Alston; Malaby's Cross Road, Reverend Harmon Pair; Mount Moriah, Reverend J. S. Davis; Mount Bright, Reverend H. G. Pope; Mount Pleasant, Reverend C. C. Clark; Mount Pleasant, Franklinton, Reverend J. McKnight; Martin Street, Reverend E. Wimberly; Macedonia, Reverend W. H. Freeman; Middlesex,

Reverend E. Nelson; New Light, Reverend J. W. Powell; New Bethel, Reverend D. L. Salter; New Providence, Reverend M. V. Cannady; Oberlin, Reverend S. H. Witherspoon; Old Liberty, Reverend J. W. Higgins; Oak City, Reverend J. W. Jones; Olive Branch, Reverend M. C. Ransom; Pleasant Grove, Reverend A. T. Price; Riley Hill, Reverend H. Pair; Saint Matthew, Reverend A. T. Price; Springfield, Reverend J. W. Ligon; Stokes' Chapel, Reverend S. H. Witherspoon; Tupper Memorial, Reverend T. H. Dwell; Union Baptist, Reverend J. H. Jenkins; Union Grove, Reverend L. A. Brooks; Wake Chapel, Reverend J. W. Jones; Wakefield, Dr. C. E. Askew; Woodland Chapel, Reverend W. H. Freeman; Zebulon, Reverend M. V. Cannady; Mary Grove, Reverend S. A. Todd.

The 1922 Session of the Association met with the First Baptist Church, Franklinton, North Carolina, August 16-18. The 1923 Session met with Saint Matthew Baptist Church. The 1924 Session met with New Bethel Baptist Church, Rolesville, North Carolina. At this session, Reverend Stokes was moved from the Clerk to the Vice Moderatorship and Dr. O. S. Bullock was elected Corresponding Secretary and Reverend C. C. Clark was elected auditor.

1925 was a significant year in the life of the Association. It marked the close of the Moderatorship of Dr. J. W. Ligon. He had led the Association well. 1924 was the last year in which Dr. Ligon presided over the Wake body. Thirty-nine churches represented that year with total receipts of \$1,715.69.

Dr. Ligon was a native son of Wake County, born November 12, 1869 in Method, North Carolina. His parents were Washington Ligon and Amanda Dunn Ligon.

As a boy he attended rural Wake County Schools. He graduated from Shaw University with A.B. in 1889. He did further study at

the University of Chicago. Shaw University conferred upon him the honorary D.D. the spring of 1925. He died June 28th, 1925, just a few months before the Annual meeting of the Association in August.

The 59th Session of the Wake Baptist Association met with the New Providence Baptist Church, August 12th-13th. Dr. N. F. Roberts tended his resignation after thirty-five years of service to the Association, from 1890 to 1925.

New churches recommended to the Association was River Dell Baptist Church, organized and in Gospel Order, pastored by Reverend A. W. Seawell. The majority of these members later merged with the Good Hope Baptist Church, Shotwell.

The Committee on Officers made its report: "We, Your Committee on Officers, beg leave to submit the following report:

Moderator, Dr. G. W. Watkins; Vice Moderator, Reverend C. C. Clark; Honorary Clerk, Dr. N. F. Roberts; Clerk, Reverend George S. Stokes; Corresponding Secretary, Reverend A. A. Morrissey; Honorary Treasurer, Dr. A. W. Pegues; Treasurer, Dr. O. S. Bullock; Auditor, Reverend M. W. Williams; Statistician, Brother J. W. McAllister.

Respectfully submitted,

E. W. Montague  
J. W. Jones  
C. P. Harris  
W. H. Ray  
A. Horton  
A. I. Goodson<sup>11</sup>

The statistical report for 1925 shows the following:

Number of members added to the church by baptism, 983; Number excluded, 131; Number lost by death, 118; Value of Church property, \$162,500.00; Total Amount Contributed, \$19,814.99; Number of members gained, 98.

With the death of Dr. J. W. Ligon, Dr. G. W. Watkins, pastor

of Main Street Baptist Church, Louisburg, North Carolina, was elected to the Moderatorship of the Association. Dr. Watkins tenure was not over one or two years.

Dr. Moses W. Williams succeeded Dr. Watkins as Moderator of the Association. He served from 1925 to 1938.

The 1927 Session was held with the Jones Hill Baptist Church near Spring Hope, North Carolina. Reverend Williams was the Moderator; Reverend B. F. Jordan was the Vice Moderator; G. S. Stokes was the Clerk; Reverend A. A. Morrissey, Corresponding Secretary; Dr. A. W. Pegues, treasurer; Reverend C. C. Clark, Auditor and Reverend O. G. Watkins, Statistician.

**The Sixty-second Annual Session** met with the Main Street Baptist Church, Louisburg, North Carolina August 14th and 15th, 1929. The same officers were serving as in the previous year. It is interesting to note that there were the "Great Depression Years," and there was a decisive decline in the giving of the churches to the Association. This financial slump lasted for several years. The 1930 Session met with the Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina. The total receipts for that year was \$1,330.52, down by Four Hundred Dollars (\$400.00) from a few years before.

The 1931 Session of the Association met with Friendship Baptist Church, Forestville. The 1932 Session met with the Feltz Chapel Church, Youngsville, North Caro-

lina. The officers for that year were the same as the year before. The contributions given that year were \$787.77.

The Minutes for the years 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937 are not available.

The 1938 Session of the Association met with Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church August 17th-18th with G. S. Stokes Moderator; C. A. Marriott, Clerk; A. A. Morrissey, Corresponding Secretary; C. L. Laws, Treasurer; Reverend K. P. Battle Auditor and J. A. Gresham, Statistician.

Contributions for this year were as follows: Shaw University \$175; Lott Carey for W. C. Somerville, \$40.00; Louisburg College, \$25.00.

The Minutes for the years of 1939 and 1940 are not available.

## **Chapter IV — The Centennial Years — 1941-1966**

a. Dr. George S. Stokes — 1941-1966

# The Year And Place Of Meeting

- 1866 —
- 1867 —
- 1868 —
- 1869 —
- 1870 —
- 1871 —
- 1872 —
- 1873 —
- 1874 —
- 1875 —
- 1876 — Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, N. C.
- 1877 —
- 1878 —
- 1879 — "Church at Smithfield" First Baptist, Smithfield, N. C.
- 1880 — Olive Branch, Wake Forest, N. C.
- 1881 — Good Hope Baptist Church, Shotwell, N. C.
- 1882 — Gethsemane Baptist Church, Franklin County.
- 1883 —
- 1884 —
- 1885 — Holly Spring Baptist Church
- 1886 — Liberty Baptist Church, Franklin County
- 1887 —
- 1888 — Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, N. C.
- 1889 — Juniper Level, Baptist Church, Near Garner, N. C.
- 1890 — Riley Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, N. C.
- 1891 —
- 1892 — Mount Bright Baptist Church, Hillsboro, N. C.
- 1893 — New Providence Baptist Church, Near Varina, N. C.
- 1894 — Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, N. C.
- 1895 — Union Grove Baptist Church, Youngsville, N. C.
- 1896 —
- 1897 —
- 1898 — Nelson's Chapel Baptist Church, Franklin County.
- 1899 — Good Hope Baptist Church, Shotwell, N. C.
- 1900 — Friendship Baptist Church, Forestville, N. C.
- 1901 — Holly Spring Baptist Church (First Baptist Church)
- 1902 — Gethsemane Baptist Church, Franklin County.
- 1903 —
- 1904 — New Providence Baptist Church, Near Varina, N. C.
- 1905 — Saint Matthew Baptist Church, Near Raleigh, N. C.
- 1906 —



## CENTENNIAL YEARS 1941-1966

### Chapter IV

For convenience, we have labeled this brief history under four chapter headings: Chapter I, The Silver Years — 1-25; Golden years — 25-50; Diamond Years — 50-75; Centennial Years — 75-100. The various officers and events may not fall in these exact time spans, but approximately. This is especially true with the tenure of the moderators. Reverend Stokes served three years, from 1938 to 1941 in the Diamond Years bracket. Without a doubt, Reverend Stokes served the Association longer than any other person. The "Diamond Jubilee Session" was held with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, near Wendell, North Carolina. The other officers of the Association at that time were: Vice Moderator, Reverend H. D. Eaton, Creedmoor, Clerk, Reverend W. A. Perry, Raleigh; Corresponding Secretary, Reverend C. C. Jones, Raleigh; Treasurer, Deacon C. L. Laws, Garner; Statistician, Deacon J. A. Gresham, Zebulon, and Auditor, Reverend A. A. Anderson, Raleigh.

The Executive Board was composed of Reverend George S. Stokes, Reverend A. A. Morrissey, Reverend Charles A. Marriott, Dr. O. S. Bullock, Reverend J. W. Jones, Reverend P. D. Lewis, Reverend H. D. Eaton, Reverend M. W. Williams, Reverend C. C. Jones, Brothers A. C. Parrish, Guyon Perry, and Reverend A. A. Anderson.

The Home Mission Board was composed of Reverend N. A. Cheek, Chairman; Reverend V. T. Williams, Reverend J. W. Powell, Reverend H. Y. Cheek, Mrs. M. W. Williams, Mrs. A. B. Johnson, Dr. George W. Moore, Reverend W. D. Evans; Reverend T. B. Smith, Reverend W. M. Smith, Reverend Fred M. Davis, Mrs. V. T. Williams and Brother M. D. Haywood.

The Foreign Mission Board was composed of Reverend Duffie Lewis, Chairman; Reverend P. H. Hedgepeth, Dr. O. S. Bullock, Reverend J. R. Dent, Brother R. B.

Rayford, Mrs. M. Perry, Brother A. I. Goodson, Reverend J. F. Haywood, Reverend J. H. Cook, Mrs. B. E. Barrett, and Mrs. A. A. Anderson.

The Education Board was composed of Reverend A. B. Johnson, Chairman; Reverend C. F. Pope, Dr. O. S. Bullock, Reverend Fred Davis, Dr. R. P. Daniel, Reverend H. Y. Cheek, Mrs. E. C. Pegues and Mrs. Etta High.

The Sunday School Board was as follows: Reverend C. A. Marriott, Chairman; Dr. George W. Moore, Reverend M. W. Williams, Reverend W. H. Rogers, Reverend W. T. Farror, Brother A. C. Parrish, Reverend Wm. A. Perry, Brother S. M. McCullers, Reverend Otis Dunn and Reverend George S. Stokes.

The Ministerial Board was composed of Reverend George S. Stokes, Chairman; Reverend A. A. Morrissey, Reverend N. A. Cheek, Reverend J. L. Tilley, Reverend V. T. Williams, Reverend M. W. Williams, Reverend H. D. Eaton, Reverend C. A. Marriott, Reverend C. C. Jones, and Dr. O. S. Bullock.

To give us some insight of the ministerial leadership of the Association in 1941, I cite the list of Ordained Ministers:

Dr. R. P. Daniel, Ph.D., Raleigh; Reverend M. W. Williams, B.Th., Raleigh; Dr. O. S. Bullock, D.D., Raleigh; Reverend Geo. S. Stokes, B.Th., Middlesex; Reverend John L. Tilley, A.B., Ph.B., Raleigh; Reverend C. F. Pope, A.B., B.Th., Raleigh; Reverend J. W. Powell, Wake Forest, Reverend Fred Davis, Wilson.

Some other ordained ministers were Reverend Alvis Grady, Hillsboro; Reverend W. A. Cooper, Hillsboro; Reverend A. M. Wiggins, Middlesex; Reverend A. G. Seawell, Raleigh; Reverend C. C. Jones, Raleigh; Reverend J. R. Dent, Wake Forest; Reverend J. F. Haywood, Raleigh; Reverend William M.

Smith, Raleigh; Reverend H. D. Eaton, Creedmoor; Reverend J. W. Jones, Raleigh; Reverend V. T. Williams, Raleigh; Reverend H. P. Hedgepeth, Spring Hope; Dr. G. W. Moore, D.D., Raleigh; Reverend W. H. Rodgers, Zebulon; Reverend E. L. Crudup, Bunn, and Reverend H. Haskins, Durham.

The list of ordained ministers continues: Reverend Omega Watkins, Wake Forest; Reverend Wm. A. Perry, Raleigh; Reverend Avery Horton, Raleigh; Reverend Henry Peppers, Durham; Reverend Charles T. Jones, Wilson; Reverend A. B. Johnson, B.Th., Raleigh; Reverend D. P. Lewis, A.B., B.Th., Louisburg; Reverend Chas P. Harris, Franklinton; Reverend W. T. Farror, B.Th., Franklinton; Reverend W. C. Somerville, A.B., B.D., Washington; Reverend W. H. Marable, Whitakers; Reverend D. A. Thomas, B.S., Clinton; Reverend Charles A. Marriott, A.B., A.M., Raleigh; Reverend C. H. Williamson, Louisburg; Reverend Essex Henry, Jr., Raleigh; Reverend N. A. Cheek, Elberton; Reverend T. W. Owens, Wilson; Reverend H. Y. Cheek, A. B., B.Th., Henderson; Reverend W. L. Wilson, Durham; Reverend Enoch Kearney, Franklinton; Reverend Hanson Dunn, Wake Forest; Reverend J. L. Perry, Louisburg; Reverend E. S. Williamson, Louisburg; Reverend N. A. Heartley, Clayton; Reverend T. C. Sanders, Clayton; Reverend T. B. Smith, McCullers; Reverend W. D. Evans, Wake Forest; Reverend R. H. Jones, Zebulon; Reverend W. Price, Raleigh, and Reverend A. A. Anderson, Raleigh.

The last eleven of the sixty-five ordained ministers in 1941 were, Reverend J. L. Perry, Louisburg; Reverend Samuel Spencer, Raleigh; Reverend T. E. Copeland, Raleigh; Reverend Carr Morgan, R.F.D., Raleigh; Reverend C. L. Faison, Raleigh; Reverend O. L. Sherrill, Raleigh; Reverend J. H. Clanton, Raleigh; Reverend J. H. Cook, Franklinton; Reverend H. B. Floyd,

Bunn; Reverend McKinney Hawkins Spring Hope, and Reverend S. M. Lucas.

The Liceniate Ministers and their church affiliation were:

Elevation, G. T. Bridges; Felts Chapel, Joe Harris; First Baptist, Wendell, Daniel Burwell; First Baptist, Zebulon, William Dunn; Good Hope, Joseph Goodson; Juniper Level, C. Bates; Malaby's Cross Road, W. L. Hall; W. B. Montague, and F. Tate; Mt. Pleasant (Wake) E. W. Hunter; New Liberty, L. B. Perry, Jr.; New Bethel, Thomas Morgan; Pleasant Grove, Frank Crews and F. M. Morgan; New Providence, W. L. Yates, J. Ray H. Newkirk; Union Grove, S. M. Mitchell and F. Harris.

Some of the highlights of the "Diamond Jubilee Session" of the Wake Baptist Association, held with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, August 13-14, 1941 are as follows: Reverend Stokes, the Moderator, called the session to order. Deacon Guyon Perry of Riley Hill gave the words of welcome and Miss Susie Wilcox of Oak City gave the response. A discussion on the subject, "The Task of the Church in a World of Substitutes," was led by Reverend H. D. Eaton. Wednesday afternoon, Reverend Stokes gave the Moderator's Recommendations:

1. Let all people exercise and maintain a firm faith in Jesus Christ, and execute the principles of His teachings.
2. That Baptist Churches should strive more earnestly to bring all people into a saving knowledge of God, and train them in the faith and doctrine of the Apostles.
3. That Daily Vacation Bible School be conducted by the churches of this body, using such qualified help as may be available.
4. That this Association go on record as favoring a universal peace and goodwill among all men.
5. That we approve and purchase literature sold by Reverend A. B. Johnson, subscribe, pay for and read the **Union Reformer**, use all literature that tends to make a person a better Christian through the Baptist Church.

6. That this Association accept the Bible way, 'Give as God has prospered us.' . . .

7. In order to meet the demands being made on this Association, I recommend that we set as a minimum financial goal \$1,000.00 for the next Association year.

8. The fall season is the money time for most of our churches. I, therefore, am asking that we suspend the rule and set the Fifth Sunday in November, 1941, as Educational Rally Day. Add "some Church to which this body may be invited . . ."

9. Churches without a pastor should at all times consult the Association for suggestions before calling. Strive to get a progressive pastor, who is in accord with the program of the Association, as it relates to the General Baptist Convention of N. C.

10. That the pastors will regularly read the Covenant of the Baptist Church, and explain to the members their duties as set forth by this document.

11. As prices of commodities advance and wages increase for other people, the church should increase the salary of the pastor, rather than keep the poor man wondering if he can meet his bills Monday morning, and thus loose his credit, because the church failed to meet its promise. . . .

12. That this Association support the General Baptist Convention **program**. . . .

13. That we, as a body, set up a student loan fund at Shaw University for those worthy young men and women . . . qualify. First of all, they should be loyal to their church and pastor.

14. That this Association donate to Shaw in its renovation program to the strength of its ability."<sup>1</sup>

For the benefit of those who lived to the Centennial of Association note the receipts of 1941: \$494.59 and disbursements of \$484.02, balance \$10.57. A breakdown of the Treasurer's report is

as follows: **ANNUAL REPORT OF BROTHER C. L. LAWS, TREASURER** From August 14, 1940 to August 13, 1941.

The largest contribution was to Shaw for Student Loan Fund \$100.00; Lott Carey Convention \$50.00; for the State Convention, \$25.00; to the Zebulon Printing Company for Minutes and Programs, \$62.00; the balance went to various individuals for services ranging from \$1.25 for the finance committee; \$5.00 for preaching. This gives us a picture of the financial struggle of the Association.

A United Educational Jubilee Session was held November 29-30 at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. The total receipts from this Session was \$380.23.

For the same year, 1941, the statistical report of the Association is as follows:

Members added by Baptism	385
Members added by Letters	82
Members added by Restoration	42

Total	509
Members lost by Letters	4
Members lost by Exclusion	59
Members lost by Death	87

Total	150
Net Gain for this year	359
Membership or Association last year	11,710
Total Membership for 1941	11,880
Value of Church Property	\$289,360.00

According to the Minutes of 1941, the next Annual Session was to be held with the First Baptist Church, Wilson, N. C. (Jackson Chapel). What transpired at this session is not known. The Minutes for 1942 are not available.

The proceedings of the 77th and 78th Sessions were held with the New Providence and Mt. Pleasant Baptist Churches respectively. The 1943 and 1944 Minutes appear under one cover and are very sketchy. The 1943 Session which met at the New Providence was opened by Dr. O. S. Bullock because Moderator Stokes was ill and was not able to attend this session. The Reverend C. C. Jones preached the introductory sermon from John

<sup>1</sup> Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association, 1941, Pp 11 and 12.



15:12. "This is my Commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you." After the message, reports were given from the various Auxiliary Presidents. Mrs. B. E. Barrett for the Women, Reverend A. A. Morrissey from the Ministers and Deacons' Union; Brother O. P. Dunn for the Wake Missionary Union; Brother A. C. Parrish for the Sunday School Convention and Reverend Otis E. Dunn for the B. T. U.

The receipts for this year were as follows:

Regular Session \$542.19; Delayed funds sent through the Clerk's office, \$70.27; United Jubilee Session held with the Bethlehem Baptist Church, November 28, 1943 \$117.67. Some of the major contributions, Student Loan Fund at Shaw University, Shaw University for Institute \$25.00; Lott Carey Convention, \$60; Lott Carey Convention (Womens Auxiliary), \$15.

The 1944 Session was held with the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Neuse, N. C. Reverend A. A. Horton was pastor. The proceedings for that year is not recorded other than the finances. The receipts for that year were \$808.33; \$200.00 was donated to Shaw and \$150.00 to Lott Carey Convention.

The 79th Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the 27th Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary were held with the Baptist Grove Church August, 1945. The minutes do not record a morning session. The Wednesday afternoon Session mentions the Moderator's Address, remarks by Mrs. Robert P. Daniel, the wife of the President of Shaw University. She spoke in the interest of the Womens Work. Reverend C. F. Pope spoke on the subject, "Christianizing The World Through The Church."

The Moderator made fifteen (15) recommendations. A brief summary of his recommendations; members follow the example of Jesus Christ in life and reach the "Lost Sheep of Israel." The Association sets as its financial goal 5,000.00 for Missions and Christian Education. That the Association encourage "its members to be better citizens along all lines."

The Association raised \$1124.14. Some of the major contributions

of the Association were: Student Loan Fund \$394.00 and State Convention's program \$543.00 and there was the general operational expenses and gifts to retired ministers. The Extra Session of March 31, 1946 showed the Association raised \$976.97 total for the Associational year was \$2,194.00.

The 80th Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the 28th Annual Session were held with First Baptist Church, Fuquay Springs, N. C. The theme was "United In Kingdom Building For The Salvation of Souls." The usual reports from the various auxiliaries were made by their presidents. This was followed by the introductory sermon by Reverend Avery Horton: "Our Unfinished Task."

At the afternoon session, Vice Moderator Eaton presented Moderator Stokes who brought his Annual Message. The Thursday Session opened with devotionals by Brothers Albritton and Pulley. Dr. Bullock led in discussion.

Reverend G. E. Cheek, in the absence of President Daniel, spoke in the interest of Shaw University. Reverend John W. White made remarks on behalf of the Baptist training program of the state.

#### REPORT ON OFFICERS

"We, the Committee on Officers, recommend the following for 1947:

Reverend George Stokes, Moderator; Reverend H. D. Eaton, Vice Moderator; Reverend Otis Dunn, Clerk; Reverend C. C. Jones, Corresponding Secretary; Brother C. L. Laws, Treasurer; Reverend A. A. Anderson, Auditor; Brother J. A. Gresham, Statistician.

Officers of the Woman's Auxiliary.

Mrs. Mollie Dunston, President; Mrs. Mamie Perry, Vice President; Mrs. Lizzie Foster, Secretary; Miss L. F. Marriott, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. N. A. Hunter, Treasurer.

The money raised was \$1,340.06. The highlights of Contributions were Lott Carey Convention, \$250.00; General Convention, \$202; Shaw University New Development Campaign, \$305.00; Shaw Loan Fund \$100.00. On May 1, the treasurer reported: paid to Shaw \$574.31; for State Missions,

\$248.53; and Unified Program, \$134.88.

The 81st Session was held at Mt. Bright Baptist Church, Hillsboro, North Carolina, the Reverend A. B. Johnson, pastor. Welcome expressions were made on behalf of the church, community and ministers of the city. Reverend C. H. Heath preached the introductory sermon. His theme was, "True Religion."

The officers for the ensuing year were Reverend George S. Stokes, Moderator; Reverend H. D. Eaton, Vice Moderator; Reverend Otis Dunn, Clerk; Reverend C. C. Jones, Corresponding Secretary; Brother C. L. Laws, treasurer; Reverend A. A. Anderson, Auditor, and Reverend P. H. Johnson, Statistician.

Finances for the session was \$1,411.75 with 42 churches represented. The Extra Session called the "United Associational Day" held with the New Liberty Baptist Church, March 30, 1947 was \$1,031.50.

Mt. Bright Baptist Church located in the historic town of Hillsboro, Orange County, was affiliated with Wake Baptist Association from its early days, severed its relations with the Wake after 1957.

Session marks the last with this body. In recent years, Mt. Bright affiliated with some other Association.

The Eighty-Second Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Thirtieth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary held with the New Bethel Baptist Church, Rolesville, North Carolina, July 21-22, 1948, Reverend C. H. Heath was the host pastor. The devotionals were led by Reverend J. H. Cook and Reverend A. A. Morrissey. Reverend C. R. Trotter spoke on the theme: "The Church in the Changing World." Reverend Heath made the Association feel welcome on behalf of the good people of New Bethel and the Rolesville Community. The Introductory sermon was preached by Reverend T. B. Smith, subject: "Stay in the Wagon." Text was from Gen. 25:24.

The Association reassembled at 2:00 P.M. with a selection led by Reverend O. H. Broadie. Vice Moderator Heath presented Moderator Stokes who spoke on the theme:



## "The Duty of the Baptist Church in A Restless Age."

Thursday morning, July 22, the Association met in its second day Session. Reverend James Avery accompanied Reverend Trotter who again discussed the theme of the Association. The speaker pointed out that in three areas the Church must guide the thinking of the people; political, economical and spiritual. Dr. Bullock discussed the Covenant. He urged every member in our bounds to live by the spirit of the Covenant.

Reverend Otis Dunn came before the body and stated that he would be leaving this area to pastor the First Nazareth Baptist Church Asheville, North Carolina. He would ask that the Association would not consider him as clerk any longer. He brought the body the inspirational message. The Text was Matthew 1:18, 19. His subject was, "The Growing Church." After the message, the Association voted to donate a present to the retiring Clerk.

Mrs. Mollie Dunston, president of the Auxiliary, presented Miss Mary Debnam, who spoke for the Woman's Department. Her message centered around the various duties of the officers of the Circles.

Receipts for the Annual Session came to \$2,893.71. The amount spent for expenses and objectives amounted to 2,317.16. The major gifts went to State Missions \$260; Shaw University, \$390.01; Lott Carey Convention, \$300.00.

The Eighty-Third Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Thirty-First Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary was held with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, July 27th and 28th.

The theme was "Christian Stewardship." Brother W. C. High led singing, "I Am Going Back To Jesus." The Junior Choir from New Bethel sang, "Take The Name Of Jesus With You." Reverend C. H. Heath read the Scripture, and Reverend A. M. Wiggins offered prayer. After another selection, "Sweet Hour of Prayer," Reverend O. H. Broadie discussed the theme. He said, as Christian Stewards, we are to urge our members to dedicate all our powers; physical, mental and financial to God.

The morning message was delivered by Reverend J. H. Clanton from Psalm 40, Verses 1, 2, and 3, "I waited patiently For the Lord." Before the adjournment for dinner, visitors were presented in the person of Dr. G. W. Watkins, Moderator in 1927, and Deacon W. C. High formerly of Wakefield, but now residing in White Plain, N. Y.

The afternoon session convened with the devotionals led by Reverend A. A. Anderson and Reverend C. H. Heath, and F. Tate. Moderator Stokes presented Reverend O. L. Sherrill, the Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention who made timely remarks concerning his work. Moderator Stokes presented his Annual Message. The thrust of his message was, "I can do all things Through Christ Which Strengtheneth Me."

It was at this session that Reverend C. H. Heath was elected Vice Moderator and all other officers to succeed themselves. The Women's Auxiliary had charge of the evening service. Reverend C. C. Jones brought the sermon. The text was taken from Matthew 25:14.

On Thursday morning, Reverend J. W. Jones, Moderator of the Johnston District Association conducted the devotionals. He led in singing, "Blessed Assurance," and read the 12th Chapter of Romans for the Scripture. Reverend Richardson offered the prayer. The theme, "Church Officers Teaching and Practicing Stewardship," was discussed by Dr. O. S. Bullock. The closing sermon was delivered by Reverend Johnson. The text was taken from Acts 20th Chapter and 1st Verse. Subject: "What's Right With The Church?" Among the visitors attending the Eighty-Third Session of the Wake Baptist Association were Mrs. Ellen S. Alston, the Executive Secretary of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. Reverend A. G. Coley and Mrs. Cora Pair Thomas. Mrs. Thomas was a former member of the Good Hope Baptist Church and returned missionary from Liberia where she had spent forty years of her life.

The Association raised \$1,866.43 at this session. The Association gave the Causes \$1,686.76. The major disbursements are as follows: Lott Carey \$325.00; Shaw

University \$300.00; State Missions \$300.00; New Building Program at Shaw \$200.00; Theo Davis Sons (Minutes) \$125.00. Mrs. Cora Pair Thomas, for Scholarship in Liberia, \$35.00.

The First Baptist Church, Zebulon, was the host to the Eighty-Fourth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Thirty-Second Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary. The Association convened August 16-17, 1951. The Mid-Year Session met with the Wakefield Baptist Church April 29, 1950, Reverend W. R. Strassner, pastor. After devotionals, led by Reverend C. H. Heath, Reverend C. R. Trotter led a discussion, "The Relation of the Church to the Church School." The sermon was delivered by Reverend C. C. Jones, "Put On The Whole Armour Of God, That Ye May Be Able To Stand Against The Wiles of The Devil."

The Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the afternoon session. Music was by the New Liberty Baptist Church Junior Choir. Mrs. Mollie Dunston, president, made remarks. Mrs. Ellen Powell came before the body and presented Mrs. Ellen S. Alston who emphasized the objectives of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention: State Missions, Foreign Missions, Shaw University and the Central Orphanage.

Dr. O. S. Bullock was presented to the Association as the new President of the Lott Carey Foreign Missionary Convention. In his talk he said, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come unto you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

The Annual Session of the Association met with the First Baptist Church, Zebulon, with Reverend Avery Horton as pastor, August 23-24, 1950. The church was under physical construction. In his welcome address, Reverend Horton stated that because the Association was to meet with them, greater interest had been stimulated in the new church. Reverend J. F. Haywood and J. H. Cooke conducted the devotionals. After the Junior choir from Pleasant Grove Baptist Church sang, "He's So Real To Me." Mr. Charles Robin-



son spoke on the subject: "How the Church Can Meet the Challenge Through The Home."

The Moderator made several recommendations. Some of the most far-reaching were:

5. "That we disapprove the use and sale of alcoholic beverages."
7. "That the churches of this body raise the salaries of the pastors and all other church workers as conditions will warrant."
11. "That we recognize this body as the parent of all the other departments and the conventions and unions will dissolve their feelings as independent bodies."

Reverend S. L. Suitt preached from the theme of the Association, "The Challenge to the Church." Other persons who spoke in this session were Reverend John Parks, Dr. G. W. Watkins and G. E. Cheek and Reverend A. B. Johnson. Reverend Johnson's thought was "Ye Must Be Born Again."

The finance for this session was Extra-Session \$649.16. The funds for the Annual Session were \$1,283.02, Receipts from the Woman's Auxiliary \$122.69. Donations went to regular objectives, \$200.00 General Baptist State Convention; \$500.00 for New Pulpit in Church at Shaw University.

The Eighty-Fifth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Thirty-Third Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary met with the Elizabeth Baptist Church near Spring Hope, North Carolina. Reverend D. Hargrave, pastor expressed words of welcome on behalf of the Church. After a brief devotional by Reverend Charles T. Jones and Reverend A. L. Bridges, Reverend J. H. Clanton came before the Association and discussed, "Church Unity Through The Ministers and Deacons Union." Reverend A. L. Morgan delivered the introductory sermon. His text was John 20:21, "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." His subject was, "The Mission of the Church."

It was at this Association that Reverend T. A. Watkins was introduced to the body as the pastor of

First Baptist Church, in Wilson, sometimes called the Jackson Chapel Baptist Church.

Thursday afternoon was devoted to a discussion by Reverend C. C. Jones on Baptist Doctrines; (a) New Testament Way of Life; (b) Baptist believe in regeneration; (c) Baptist believe in Baptism by immersion. Reverend O. L. Sherrill expressed his appreciation for the **loyal support of the Association** and presented Reverend John Fleming, The Director of Religious Education at Shaw University to bring the message. He stressed the objectives of the Convention. Reverend Issac Lee brought the message from the text: "The Master Is Come and Called for Thee."

The Association raised at both the Annual and Mid-Year Sessions the sum of \$1,933.08; Annual \$1,282.81; Mid-Year \$650.27. Major contributions went to Lott Carey Convention \$325.00, General Convention \$200.00, \$450.00 Shaw University and Oxford Orphanage \$25.00 and less amounts for operational expenses. There were thirty-four churches represented that year. All officers succeeded themselves and Mr. Garrett Laws was elected to assist his father, Deacon Claude Laws who was ill.

New Providence Baptist Church was the host for the Eighty-Sixth Annual Session and the Thirty-Fourth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary, August 13-14, 1952. Baptist Grove Baptist Church, hosted the Mid-Year Session Sunday, March 30, 1952. Reverend W. A. Perry, pastor. Mrs. I. H. Leathers and Mrs. Odessa Turner led the devotionals. Mrs. Hollie Dunston made brief remarks and presented Mrs. Ellen Powells who presented Mrs. Ellen Alston, the Executive Secretary of the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention. Mrs. Alston stated that she had just returned from the Missionary field. She stated her trip made on a 17-ton plane traveling at a speed of 370 miles per hour. In 30 hours, the group landed in Monrovia, Africa where they met President Tubman, president of the Republic. Mrs. Alston stated that President Tubman pointed out to the delegation the opportunities for missionary work in Africa. She further stated there are large leper colonies found in abundance; superstition is prevel-

ance among many and some Chiefs had as many as fifty wives. These are some of the real challenges to the missionary men and women of our convention. Reverend John Parks and Reverend Clyde Walton accompanied Reverend S. L. Suitt who brought the message from Titus 1:9, "Holding fast the faithful world as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

The Reverend A. A. Crum was presented as the new pastor of Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church.

Vice Moderator Heath called the Annual Session of the Association to order. Reverend A. A. Anderson and Reverend Millard Jones led the devotionals. Reverend W. W. Fulcon? Calcon? said the words of welcome. Reverend Alex Terrill responded. Reverend C. C. Jones led a discussion, "Christianizing the World Through the Home." The morning sermon was delivered by Reverend T. A. Watkins, Wilson. His theme: "How May We Succeed in Christianizing the World?" The text was "And I Saw and Bare Record that this is the Son of God." John 1:34.

Wednesday afternoon's Session was opened by Reverend O. H. Broadie and Clyde B. Walton. Reverend Stokes presented his recommendations to the body. Some of the highlights of his address were: That the churches in this Association raise the standard of giving, and help to get our children in Sunday School.

The Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the program for the afternoon under the presidency of Mrs. Mollie Dunston. Dr. Strassner, president of Shaw University spoke on the subject, "The Place of the Christian College in Christianizing the World."

The Committee on officers recommended that all officers succeed themselves. This was approved by the body. Brother H. C. High was placed on the Executive Board.

Funds raised at the Eighty-Sixth Session was \$1,519.55. The records also show that \$1,094.83 was received at another meeting. Gifts to the objectives were \$2,150.17.



The record shows that Reverend J. B. Crandell from Greenville, North Carolina was listed as Pastor of Pilot Baptist Church. The name of Reverend Moses Delaney, Instructor at Shaw University appears.

The Eighty-Seventh Annual Session of the Association and Thirty-Fifth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary were held at Jones Hill Baptist Church, near Spring Hope, North Carolina, August 12-13, 1953, Reverend C. C. Jones, pastor. The Vice Moderator Heath called the Session to order. Pastor Jones gave the welcome remarks on behalf of the church. "The Responsibility of the Wake Baptist Association to the Community" was discussed by Reverend Clyde Walton.

Wednesday afternoon was devoted to two features, the Moderator's Address and the sermon by Reverend O. H. Brodie. The Moderator's Address was the same as in former years. Reverend Brodie's theme for the afternoon was, "The Church Is Ready For Its World's Task."

On Thursday morning, devotionals were conducted by Reverend Mil-lard Jones and Reverend A. A. Crum. Reverend John Parks discussed the topic, "The Responsibility of the Wake Association to the Local Church."

Doctor Grady D. Davis was presented as the Acting Dean of the School of Religion at Shaw University. He stated that two non-credit courses would be offered at the school for men who desire them.

The afternoon session was held jointly with the Woman's Auxiliary. This was done to expedite time because of the funeral of Reverend C. F. Pope, a long time member of the Association and one time pastor of New Liberty Baptist Church. Reverend C. H. Heath brought the message from Isaiah 6th Chapter and 8th Verse: "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, here am I; send me." Reverend Heath's theme was "Ready For Service."

The Association raised for the Mid-Year Session \$732.78 with thirty-one churches represented. For the Annual Session \$1,285.42 with thirty-eight churches repre-

sented. The major contributions were Lott Carey, \$300; Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Convention \$106.00; General Baptist State Convention for Shaw, \$246; for State Missions \$191.00; Shaw for Student Loan 550.00 and General Baptist Convention for (New Building Fund).

The Minutes of the Eighty-Eighth Session of the Wake Association appears to be lost, however, that Session was to be held with First Baptist Church, Franklinton, North Carolina. The Minutes of the Eighty-Ninth Session of the Wake Baptist Association, and the Thirty-Seventh Annual Session were held with the First Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina.

The Minutes of August 17-18, 1955 state:

"The Wake Baptist Association met in its Eighty-Ninth Annual Session with the host Church, First Baptist of this city. On Wednesday, the opening day of the Association, a tropical storm swept over portions of North Carolina, to the extent, the session was delayed several hours. . .

By twelve o'clock noon, only a few members of the body had arrive. Those present urged the secretary, Reverend Trotter to call the Association in Session."

Pastor Watkins gave words of welcome on behalf of the Church. It has been a long friendship of First Baptist, (Jackson Chapel) with the Wake Association. The entire church is glad to have the Association as their guest. Reverend Avery Horton spoke on the theme: "The Role of the Church in a Changing Rural Life."

For the afternoon session, Reverend Horton was asked to act as Moderator since Reverend Stokes had still not arrived. Mr. Charles Robinson was scheduled to talk on the subject: "Educational Changes in the A. Rural Life." Because of the hour and the absence of the speaker, Reverend A. M. Wiggins, the sermon was omitted. It was the consent of the body that the evening session would be omitted. By this time, Reverend Stokes had arrived. He presented Reverend T. H. Brooks, the superintendent of the Oxford Orphanage. He thanked the people and invited them to come to the campus to see the children.

Thursday mornings session opened with the devotionals led by Deacons Robert Wilder and Robert Rayford. Mr. W. C. Davenport, Farm Agent of Wake County, called our attention to the agricultural changes that were taking place in rural communities.

Dr. William R. Strassner, president of Shaw, called our attention to: "Christian Education in A Changing Rural Life."

Since the Auxiliary had not had a space on the program, this time was devoted to their work.

Dr. Grady D. Davis brought the sermon. "Ye are the salt of the earth." His theme was "A Dynamic Church in a Changing World."

The Extra-Session of the Wake Baptist Association was held on campus of Shaw University by invitation of its president, W. R. Strassner. The University Choir under the directorship of Mr. Harry Gil-Smith rendered music. The Finance Committee was appointed composed of the following persons: Reverend W. A. Perry, chairman;; Mr. C. A. Robinson, Mr. Robert Haskin, Mrs. Rosa Johnson and Mr. D. H. Keck.

The morning session was under the auspicious of the Woman's Auxiliary. Mrs. M. N. Perry presented Miss Mildred L. McTyre, a member of the faculty of Shaw University. Her subject was taken from Psalms 144:14, "That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; that our daughters may be as corner stones, polished after the similitude of a place." The speaker pointed out that our Christian College attempts to make our sons and daughters like corner pillars.

President Strassner came before the body and brought greetings on behalf of the University. Reverend T. A. Watkins brought the sermon: "Marvel Not That I Said Unto Thee, Ye must be born again." John 3:7, subject "A Teacher Sent From God." For the afternoon session, the message was delivered by Dr. J. L. S. Holloman, minister of the Second Baptist Church, Washington, D. C. His text was "Study to Show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be



ashamed, rightly dividing the work of truth."

The treasurer's report for the Annual Session says there were 37 churches reporting and the amount of money raised \$1,112.44; Extra Session \$580.33; the special Shaw effort \$1,581.41. A motion prevailed, that if the treasurer was prepared that this Association go on record as donating Shaw University the sum of \$2,000.00.

Good Hope Baptist Church, near Knightdale, was the place of meeting for the 90th Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association August 15th and 16th, 1956. Reverend C. R. Trotter, pastor. Miss Geraldine High brought words of welcome on behalf of the church and pastor.

Because Dr. Wendell C. Somerville could not be present on Thursday, he gave his message in the morning session on Wednesday. His theme was: "The Untrodden Way, oshua 3:4 "That yet may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed this way heretofore." Dr. Somerville spoke of the general unrest in the east where the Lott Carey has most of its mission stations. The speaker said the world is passing through an eclipse, but the light is still shining, for the darkness has never put it out.

Reverend Vick Alston, assisted by Reverends W. M. Morgan and Leotha Debnam came before the Association to bring the Annual Message. His subject was "A Contract With God." Text: Judges 11:35, "I have opened my mouth unto the Lord, and I cannot go back."

After dinner the Association reconvened with devotionals conducted by Reverend L. B. Hockaday and Deacon H. C. High. Vice Moderator Heath presented Reverend Stokes to bring his Annual Message. His theme was, "Working Together With God." In the Moderator's recommendations he stressed that the Association support a "Leadership Training Program within its borders," and also the ones held at Shaw University.

Reverend S. L. Suitt discussed the topic, "The Church Member's Responsibility in Carrying out the Mission of the Church." Reverend John W. Fleming spoke in behalf of State Missions.

Vice Moderator called the Association to order with devotionals led by Reverend Millard Jones and Isaac Lee. "Amazing Grace" was the opening number. Eleven verses of the 12th Chapter of Romans was the Scripture. "When the Roll is Called up Yonder," closed the devotionals.

Reverend Heath presented Mr. J. W. Yeargin, a layman from the First Baptist Church, to discuss the "Responsibility of Church Officers to Carry Out The Mission Of The Church. Reverend A. A. Anderson to discuss the same topic, but from the minister's viewpoint. Reverend Paul Johnson delivered a sermon from the subject, "The Cost of Being A Christian." The Text was Matthew 5:20, "For I tell you, unless your goodness excels that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never get into the realm of heaven."

The Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the Thursday afternoon session. Miss Penny Perry presented Mrs. Mammie N. Perry, the new President of the Auxiliary. She spoke briefly on the subject: The responsibility of the Christian Woman. The final message of the session was delivered by Reverend Paul Warren of Mount Bright Baptist Church, Hillsboro, North Carolina. The speaker selected as his text: "And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on." The speaker stressed the idea that Jesus has something to say to us.

The Wake Association through its Committee on Education spoke to the Supreme Court's Decision on Segregation. Among other things it said: "That the Association endorse wholeheartedly the May 17th, 1954 Supreme Court decision on outlawing segregation in the public schools; we further recommend that the Association go on record as opposed to the Pearsall Plan as a solution to the present crisis and that we urge all our members to vote against it September 8, 1956."

Listed in the obituary were two longtime leaders of the Association, Reverend B. F. Jordan, former pastor of (Jackson Chapel) First Baptist Church, Wilson, N. C. and Deacon Guyon Perry, long time treasurer of the Ministers and Deacons Union and President of

the Sunday School Convention.

The Extra Session of the Association called the "United Extra Session" met March 31, 1957 at Shaw University. The theme was: "Meeting the Challenge of Christian Leadership." Deacon B. W. Lane the president of the Sunday School Convention called the Sunday School Department to open the session and conduct the Sunday School session.

President Strassner of Shaw University presented Dr. J. Neal Hughley, University Minister at North Carolina College at Durham and also pastor of the First Baptist Church, Franklinton, N. C., to bring the message. His theme was, The Call of God Through Human Needs." The text was from Isaiah "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send and who will go for us?"

The afternoon session was opened by the First Baptist Church Choir of Raleigh, North Carolina. The Raleigh Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance joined in this financial effort. Reverend C. L. Gidney of the Wilson Temple M. B. Church made remarks, also, Reverend J. W. Jones, Moderator of Johnston District Association. The guest speaker for this special occasion was the Reverend C. W. Kerry of the Friendship Baptist Church of Charlotte. Reverend Kerry announced his text from Zechariah 2:1-5, "I lifted up mine eyes again, and looked and behold a man with a measuring line in his hand. Then said I, Whither goest thou? And he said unto me, To measure Jerusalem, to see what is the breadth thereof, and what is the length thereof. And, behold, the angel that talked with me went forth, and another angel went out to meet him, And said unto him, Run, speak to this young man, saying, Jerusalem shall be inhabited as towns without walls for the multitude of men and cattle therein; For I, said the Lord, will be unto her a well of fire round about, and will be the glory in the midst of her.' The thrust of the speaker's message was the church must take the lead in building of the Walls.



Finances for the year 1956, Received at Good Hope Baptist Church \$2,737.87; the amount received at Shaw University, \$1,686.72. Highlights of donations: Shaw University \$1,507.11; Lott Carey \$100.00; Irving-Swain for printing Minutes \$204.00; Shaw University \$492.89; Shaw University \$584.55; Shaw University \$1,000.00.

The Ninety-Second Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Fortieth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary met with the Pilot Baptist Church, near Zebulon, North Carolina, August 13-14, 1958. The Devotionals were conducted by Reverends Heath and Wright. Words of welcome were given by Deacon Clemmons and pastor Crandel. The response was given by Dr. C. E. Askew.

A topic was discussed by Reverend A. M. Wiggins on the subject, "The Doctrine of Sin." Sin is anything that makes us revolt against the Will of God. Reverend Wiggins reminded us against sin as seen in the Genesis Story. Although man went against the Will of God, God made provision for his return.

Reverend T. A. Watkins accompanied by Reverend G. A. Jones of Juniper Level brought the body the morning's sermon. The speaker's text was "While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." from Matthew 17:5. The speaker's subject was, "Hear the Lord." We hear God through nature, and we hear God through Scripture.

After the Sermon, Moderator Stokes presented the new pastors and other visitors. Reverend J. E. Bond of New Liberty was presented as a new pastor, Reverend W. R. Griggs, white, was presented as the new pastor to work in the area of Inter-racial Cooperation of Southern Baptist Convention. Reverend Griggs said that he was available to visit the churches of the Association in whatsoever capacity that he could. Dr. O. L. Sherrill and Reverend John W. Fleming represented the State work.

Wednesday afternoon was de-

voted to a discussion by Dr. C. E. Askew. The theme was "Regeneration or the New Birth." The speaker set forth the following ideas: 1. Conviction; 2. Godly Sorry; 3. Decision; 4. New Creature; 5. Justification; 6. Sanctification.

At this Session of the Association two new churches were admitted to the Association: The First Baptist, Middlesex, pastored by Reverend B. V. Alston and Williams Grove Baptist Church, pastored by Reverend Clyde Walton and Reverend Hermon Fort. Dr. W. C. Somerville addressed this session on behalf of Foreign Missions.

Mrs. M. N. Perry spoke on behalf of the Woman's work. Reverend A. M. Wiggins brought the closing sermon from Hebrews 13:1, "Let brotherly love continue."

The United Session of the Wake Baptist Association met with the Olive Branch Baptist Church March 29th, 1959. Dr. Grady Davis brought the morning's message on the theme: "Getting Ready For Easter." The afternoon message was brought by Reverend M. R. Boone of the Tupper Memorial Baptist Church. His text was II Cor. 5:17, "Therefore, If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." His theme was, "A New Day."

Receipts for the Ninety-Second year of the Association were \$1,613.31 for the regular session and \$923.52 for the United Session. Some major contributions for this year were Lott Carey \$100.00, Shaw University \$1,075.19. The treasurer's report showed payments of \$50.00 to Reverend T. A. Watkins for the Institute conducted at New Liberty and C. R. Trotter \$50.00 for Institute conducted at First Baptist Church, Fuquay.

Macedonia Baptist Church, near Wake Forest, North Carolina, was the host church of the Ninety-Third Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Forty-First Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary August 12-13, 1959. Words of welcome were given by pastor, B. V. Alston. The response was given by Reverend J. A. Barnes. Reverend James A. Avery brought the introductory sermon. His text was Matthew 6:9, "After this manner therefore pray ye;

our Father which art in Heaven." His theme was, "Our Father."

The Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the afternoon Session with Mrs. M. N. Perry, presiding. In her address, she stated that Christians were saved to help save others.

Reverend Stokes delivered his Annual Address next. His address centered around, "the place of the Church in Evangelism." The thrust of his recommendations were similar as in previous years. Wednesday evening session was given to the Woman's Auxiliary for their work. Reverend F. J. Boyd of Mt. Bright, Hillsboro brought the message. The speaker's subject was, "Upstairs Power."

Thursday Morning's Session opened with devotionals by Brother McClain and Sister Mary Crenshaw. Expressions were given by A. J. Clemmons, C. V. King and Reverend J. A. Watson of Gethsemane Baptist Church. Sister Besie Leathers stated that Baptist Grove had just erected a new church edifice under the leadership of Reverend W. A. Perry.

Moderator Stokes asked Mrs. E. M. Kelly, the Minister of Music of the First Baptist Church, Raleigh, to assemble an Associational Choir. The choir sang, "If Jesus Goes With Me."

Reverend Moses Delaney, a member of the faculty of the School of Religion of Shaw University came forward and expressed his appreciation for what the Wake Association was doing for the "In-Service Ministers." The class meets each Tuesday evening. Dr. Delaney centered his remarks around the subject: "Evangelism in the Home Community." He said that there are times when one cannot do very much in the Home Community, but Christians should try to get people to commit themselves to Christ home or abroad.

The Mid-Year Session was held on the campus of Shaw University, March 27, 1960. The Sunday School was conducted by the Campus Sunday School. Miss Mildred McTyre spoke for the Woman's Auxiliary. Reverend Clyde B. Walton brought the morning's sermon from Phil. 3:13, 14. "This One Thing I Do."



The receipts for the Annual Session were \$1,334.40; and for the Extra Session \$736.95.

The Association donated \$361.46 to Lott Carey; \$150.00 for State Mission; \$900.00 for Shaw University.

The officers for 1960 are as follows: Moderator, G. S. Stokes; Vice Moderator, Reverend C. H. Heath; Clerk, Reverend C. R. Trotter; Corresponding Secretary, Reverend C. . Jones; Historian, Reverend T. A. Watkins; Treasurer, Deacon R. B. Rayford and Reverend A. A. Anderson, Auditor.

The Ninety-Fourth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Forty-Second Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary convened with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, Dr. George S. Stokes; our Moderator, the host pastor, August 17th and 18th, 1960. The devotionals were conducted by Reverend Lemuel Mial and Reverend A. A. Anderson at 10:00 A.M. Deacon Otha Holden gave warm words of welcome on behalf of the church. Expressions were given from the various churches. Reverend A. L. Morgan spoke for Gethsemane; Brother C. N. McCullers, Oak Grove; C. V. King, Baptist Grove; Gus Williams, Wake Chapel.

The Introductory Sermon was brought to the body by the Reverend J. E. Barnes, accompanied with his choir from New Liberty Baptist Church. Reverend T. A. Watkins presented the speaker, Reverend Barnes who chose for his text: Joshua 4:6 "That this may be a sign among you, that when your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, What mean ye by these stones?" Reverend Barnes' subject was, "Milestones Along The Way."

The regular offering was taken, the amount was \$34.47 and a special offering of \$41.00 was taken for the work of the N.A.A.C.P.

The afternoon Session opened with a panel discussion by Mr. Berry O. Wilcox, Reverend Clyde Walton, Reverend T. A. Watkins and Reverend O. H. Brodie on the theme: "Christian Love."

The Moderator's Address followed the Panel Discussion. The contents of the Moderator's twenty-sixth recommendations were about the same as former years with the exception of numbers twenty-two and twenty-three.

Recommendation 22, "Encourage the churches to give their pastor a vacation for time of rest and self-improvement. Recommendation 23 advise the churches to stop taking up offerings at funerals and encourage the family involved to take care of this matter."

Thursday morning Session opened at 10:00 A.M. with Reverend Isaac Lee and Reverend Millard Jones in charge of devotion. Several selections were sung: "What A Fellowship," "O How I Love Jesus" and "Something Within." The topic begun on Wednesday was continued by Reverend C. W. Ward on the theme: "Christian Love and Church Finance."

Dr. O. L. Sherrill, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention, brought greetings and thanks from that body for the support of the Association and the Churches were given the state body.

Dr. Sherrill announced his text from the 6th Chapter of Deuteronomy and the 21st verse; "Then thou shalt say unto thy son, We were Pharaoh's bondmen in Egypt; and the Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand."

The Reverend T. M. Brooks, Superintendent of Central Orphanage brought greetings from the institution and thanked the Association for its continued support. Reverend Brooks stated that there were 150 boys and girls at the Home. He also stated that \$67,000 were presently being spent for renovations.

The closing session of the Association came at 2:00 P.M. Reverend N. A. Trice, pastor of the First Missionary Baptist Church, Fuquay Springs, brought the closing message. The last verse of 1st Psalm was the text: "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." His subject was, "The Way of the Righteous."

After the message, Reverend Essex Henry led in singing, "I Am Going To Sit Down By The Banks Of The River."

Because of the dire need of our school, Shaw University, a motion prevailed that a special meeting be held the 3rd Sunday afternoon in September, 1960, the place to be announced later.

The Committee on officers recommended the following: Dr. G. S. Stokes, Moderator; Reverend C. H. Heath, Vice Moderator; Reverend C. R. Trotter, Clerk; Reverend C. C. Jones, Corresponding Secretary; Reverend T. A. Watkins, Historian; Reverend A. A. Anderson, Auditor, and Deacon Garrett Laws, Treasurer.

The officers of the Woman's Auxiliary were Mrs. M. N. Perry, President; Mrs. L. M. McLean, Vice President; Mrs. Lizzie B. Askew, Secretary; Miss Hattie B. Rayford, Assistant Secretary.

The Committee on Education made four recommendations, number three was of special importance: "That we continue to endorse the Supreme Court's decision of desegregation, and work together towards its fulfillment." The Committee on Resolutions had a similar document: "Whereas, God created all men of one flesh and one blood equal, be it resolved that this Association go on record as endorsing the activities of all people working for equal rights and privileges." (5) It is interesting to note that the people of the Wake Association became interested in Civil Rights activity at this time.

The receipts for this Session were \$1,359.17, for the Special Session, held with Olive Branch Baptist Church, September 18, 1960, \$572.80. For the Extra Session held with Shaw University, March 26, 1961 was \$1,523.84.

Some of the major contributions for that year were: Lott Carey Convention \$200.00; Shaw University \$848.00; Life Membership to the N.A.A.C.P. \$50.00 and other operational expenses.

The Ninety-Fifth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Forty-Third Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary



met with the Springfield Baptist Church, Auburn, North Carolina August 16-17, 1961. Welcome remarks were given by Pastor Brodie, and the devotionals were led by Reverend T. B. Smith and Reverend John Mangrum. The next item to claim our attention was a discussion led by Reverend S. L. Suitt: Christian Virtue, The Foundation of Christian Life.

A Mr. Costner, Director for the Raleigh Baptist Association (white) told of his work. Dr. O. L. Sherrill, the Executive Secretary and Dr. R. M. Pitts, President of the General Baptist State Convention brought greetings from the State Body.

The afternoon session opened with devotionals by Reverend Brodie and Reverend Mangrum. Moderator Stokes recognized Mr. E. M. Butler, the President of the State Sunday School Convention. Dr. Stokes proceeded to give his Annual Address: Subject: **A New Kind Of Christians Needed.** Some excerpts from the Moderator's Address: "Today's world is very complex. Every person is increasingly involved in the situation of every other person — whether that means being hungry in India, struggling for dignity and self-realization in the Congo, or being put in jail in America for sit-ins and freedom rides; the vast inequality in pay scale, the discriminatory practices in employment, are obvious weapons of injustice being used to cut the threads of progressive social order. The welfare of each individual will affect more and more by what is happening to the whole of humanity.

Today's world is a morally decedent. Moral standards are ignored and more values are ridiculed. Persons guilty of dishonesty, adultery and profanity feel no sense of shame. The sellers of beverage alcohol and the promoters of crime pose as respectable citizens. Love of money and the desire for pleasure are the gods of millions."

Thursday morning Session of the Wake Baptist Association opened with devotionals by Brothers W. M. Morgan and J. W. Bridgman. Dr. Grady D. Davis came before the Association to discuss the

duties of the Membership. The speaker suggested that there was a duty for the pastor, deacons and members. It is the church's duty to be with the members in marriage, sickness and death.

The financial receipts for the year of 1961 and the Mid-year Session at Rolesville were as follows: Annual Session \$1,210.07; the Mid-Year Session at Rolesville \$1,204.01.

According to the Treasurer's report major contributions and gifts were as follows: for the Annual Session and Mid-Year Session at Rolesville \$200 for State Mission; Lott Carey \$150.00; School of Religion, Shaw University \$1,000; General Convention for School Religion, Shaw University \$600.00. There were small donations for aged ministers of 5.00 per individual. Total receipts for the year were \$3,804.17 and total disbursements were \$3,727.40.

The feature speaker for the Extra-Session of the Association were Dr. Moses Delaney of Shaw Divinity School and Dr. Rose Butler Brown of the School of Education at North Carolina Central University.

When the Association closed at Springfield Baptist Church, the 1962 Session was to be held at Williams Grove Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina. It was understood and agreed that if Williams Grove could not accommodate the Association, Pastor Johnson of the Martin Street Baptist Church stated that they would be host.

The Ninety-Sixth Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Forty-Fourth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary met with the Martin Street Baptist Church, October 12-13, 1962. The Session opened with devotions led by Reverend O. H. Brodie and Reverend J. H. Bryant, Dr. George S. Stokes, Moderator, presiding. Welcome Greetings were brought to the Association by Pastor Paul H. Johnson. Study sessions were conducted by Dr. Grady Davis and Miss Mildred McTyre for the Woman's Auxiliary during the morning session.

The Reverend C. H. Heath presided over the afternoon session. Moderator Stokes gave his annual message. The Committee on Officers made their report: The Moderator was Reverend G. S. Stokes; Vice Moderator, Reverend T. A. Watkins; Clerk, Reverend C. C. Jones; Corresponding Secretary; Reverend W. A. Perry; Treasurer, Mr. Garrett Laws; Historian, Reverend C. W. Ward and Auditor, Reverend A. A. Anderson.

The Executive Committee of the Association received an invitation to hold its Annual Session at Pilot Baptist Church, August 14-15, 1963.

Receipts at Martin Street Baptist Church were \$1,515.09 for the Annual Session, and Mid-Year Session \$2,710.00. Contributions were, Shaw University \$702.85; General Convention \$50.00; General Convention for Shaw \$237.25; Lott Carey 105 00; Irving-Swain Press for printing Minutes \$209.35.

The Mid-Year Session was held with the Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina, Reverend S. L. Suitt, pastor. Mr. T. J. Jiles, along with the local Superintendent, had charge of the Sunday School. After the Sunday School Hour the Woman's Auxiliary had charge of the program. Mrs. Edith Trice brought the message on the theme: "What Does the Resurrection Mean to the Christian Church?"

Moderator Stokes presented Reverend C. R. Trotter, Pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church accompanied with his choir to bring the message. Reverend Trotter chose for his Scripture, the first fifteen verses the fifteenth chapter of 1st Corinthians, "The Meaning of the Resurrection." His main points were as follows: 1. The Resurrection is a historical fact. 2. The Resurrection is the heart of the Gospel Message. 3. The Resurrection is the Gateway to immorality.

The Ninety-Seventh Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association and the Forty-Fifth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary met with the Pilot Baptist Church, Pilot, North Carolina, August 14-15, 1963, The Reverend Vick Alston, pastor.



The Woman's Auxiliary met jointly with the Association at 10:00 o'clock on the above mentioned date. Reverends W. E. Eger-ton and B. H. Closs conducted the devotionals. Pastor Alston gave the welcome on behalf of the church. Mrs. Edith Trice gave the presi-dent's address. This was followed by the Annual Sermon by Reverend H. B. Perry, pastor of Mt. Bright Baptist Church, Hillsboro, North Carolina.

The Committee on Officers rec-ommended for the Association the same for 1964 as 1963; however, Woman's Auxiliary were: Mrs. Edith Trice, President; Mrs. Mar-garet P. Taylor, Vice President; Mrs. Evelyne Jones, Second Vice President; Mrs. Harriet P. Butler, Secretary and Mrs. Mattie H. Jones, Treasurer. The next setting will be with Baptist Grove, near Raleigh, North Carolina.

Dr. C. E. Askew led a discussion following the devotionals which were led by Deacons Walter Young and H. L. Clemmons on Thursday, August 15th. Dr. Askew's subject was, "Teaching The Need of The Missionary Baptist Doctrine and Practice in a Modern World." Rev-erend C. C. Jones discussed the topic also. Reverend C. C. Craig brought greetings from the Gen-eral Baptist State Convention.

Receipt for the Annual Session were \$1,088.91; and for the Extra Session \$1,162.82. The treasurer's report also showed donations to the objectives as follows: To the N.A.A.C.P., Wendell Branch, \$50; Lott Carey Convention, \$150.00; Shaw University, \$702.85; General Baptist State Convention, State Mission, \$65.79; General Conven-tion for Shaw University, \$102.50; Shaw University, \$227.56, and Gen-eral Baptist State Convention Uni-fied Program, \$950.00.

The feature speaker for the Mid-Year Session was Dr. James E. Cheek, President of Shaw Univer-sity. He thanked the Association for past assistance and made spec-ial appeal for their continued sup-port.

Among the large numbers of members who had fallen asleep from the various churches, was Dr. Moses Delaney, a member of

Martin Street Baptist Church and a member of the faculty of Shaw Divinity School. Dr. Delaney did much to help inservice ministers in night classes at Shaw.

In 1964, the Ninety-Eighth Ses-sion of the Wake Baptist Associa-tion, and the Forty-Sixth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary met with the Baptist Grove Church, near Raleigh, Reverend W. A. Perry, pastor. Wednesday morning session opened with devo-tionals by Reverend W. A. Morgan and Deacon Ollie Bridges. Pastor Perry brought welcome greetings to the Association. Moderator Stokes was missed at this setting and Reverend C. R. Trotter, pre-sided. Reverend S. L. Suitt dis-cussed the Baptist Covenant. The morning sermon was delivered by Reverend Joseph P. Dempsey from Philippians 3:13, subject, "I Am Presssing On."

After the devotionals led by Reverend G. A. Jones and Rever-end Lemuel Mial, Reverend Trotter read the Moderator's Address. Some of the highlights of the Mod-erator's address are: No. 2. "That A Constitutional Committee be named to study the Constitution of this body and report at the next Annual Meeting, 1965.

3. That a Historical Commission be named, headed by Reverend Trotter, to contact the churches for their subscription in making the history of this Association, in order that a publication may be ready at the Centennial Session of this Association."

The Necrology Roll for this set-ting carried the name of Reverend C. H. Heath, Vice Moderator of this Association and pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church, Rolesville, North Carolina.

The Committee on new bodies recommended Fayetteville Street Baptist Church to become a mem-ber of the Wake Baptist Associa-tion. This recommendation was adopted.

The second day session of the Association was opened by Rev-erends Avery Horton and Carl Morgan. Deacon Jesse Sanders discussed the theme: "Christian Growth." Reverend C. C. Craig represented the Baptist State Con-

vention. Thursday afternoon, Pres-ident James E. Cheek of Shaw Uni-versity, spoke to the Association on the subject: "The Open Door."

The Extra-Session of the Asso-ciation was held with the First Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina. Reverend John Man-grum, pastor, March 28, 1965. The theme was, "The Local Church and Its Relations to the General Baptist State Convention. Dr. O. L. Sherrill brought the message; subject: "What Is The Church?" In answer to the question is the Redeemed Society and the Church is A Christian Fellowship."

The Reverend A. H. Parker, pas-tor of the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Wendell, brought the af-ternoon message from the theme: "New Life In Christ."

On June 27th there was a Spec-ial Shaw Day held with the Riley Hill Baptist Church. The grand total received for the day was \$1,863.43. The major disburse-ments were Lott Carey \$150.00; General Baptist State Convention, \$300.00; Shaw University, \$3,296.

The One Hundredth Annual Ses-sion of the Wake Baptist Associa-tion and the Forty-Eighth Annual Session of the Woman's Auxiliary held its Centennial Session with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, Moderator George S. Stokes, pas-tor, August 17th and 18th.

The devotionals were conducted by Reverends C. P. Briley and Hedgepeth. Words of welcome were given by Brother Raymond Perry. The response was given by Rever-end J. D. Lockley, pastor of Saint Matthew Baptist Church and the First Baptist Church, Franklinton, "Christian Stewardship" was the General theme for the Centennial Session. Reverend C. R. Trotter of Good Hope Baptist Church dis-cussed the theme. The speaker said a steward recognizes God, as the steward is the administrator and sole owner of his possessions. A manager of God's goods, talents and ect. The steward must give an account of his stewardship to the owner, who is God.

The Reverend A. L. Morgan of Wake Chapel Baptist Church brought the morning's message.



Wednesday afternoon, the Moderator gave his Annual Address centering around the theme: "Milestones Along The Way." Several recommendations are noteworthy: 2. "That all churches and pastors, members of the Wake Association, obey the Constitution of this body.

"Failure to obey the laws of the Constitution, puts that pastor in an unfriendly relation with the brethren and ultimately out of gospel order with the Wake Association.

3. No church should set up an examining council to examine any candidate and pass on the same for ordination without proper recognition of the Ministerial Board of the Wake Association."

Thursday morning Session opened with devotionals, after which Dr. John W. White, president of the General Baptist State Convention brought the body the message from the text: "I am a debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise. So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome, also." Dr. P. H. Johnson spoke to the Association concerning the dire needs of Shaw University. The major receipts for this Session were \$2,717.53. Disbursements: To the Macedonia Baptist Church a donation of \$100.00, building destroyed by fire; Lott Carey \$110.00; Shaw University \$863.60; Unified Program and N.A.A.C.P., \$50.00.

When the curtains of time fell upon the Annual Session of the Wake Baptist Association at Riley Hill Baptist Church, Dr. George S. Stokes as Moderator, Reverend C. R. Trotter, Vice; Reverend Charlie C. Jones, Clerk; Reverend W. A. Perry, Corresponding Secretary; Garret Laws, Treasurer, and Reverend A. A. Anderson, Auditor.

The Mid-Year Session of the Wake Association was held with the Saint Matthew Baptist Church on April 30, 1967, I leave to those of then next century.

Your Scribe,

Claude R. Trotter, Sr.

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## **Chapter V — The Wake County Sunday School Convention**



**MR. BARTELL LANE**

**Former President of Sunday  
School Convention.**



**A. C. PARRISH**

**Former President of Sunday School**



## CHAPTER V

### WAKE COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Wake County Sunday School Convention was organized in July, 1898 at the Saint Matthews Baptist Church. The Reverend George W. Moore presided at this meeting. Other members who assisted in the organizing of this convention were Mrs. Mary Dunn, Mr. Guyon Perry, Reverend Omega Watkins, Mr. E. D. Malone and Mr. S. M. McCullers. These organizers saw the need of familiarizing all the Sunday Schools in the county as to their duties. They felt that if each Sunday School was working toward the same common objective then the form or standards should be about the same. The convention was to give the young people training and to familiarize them with the work and objectives and to pass on the aim of the State Baptist Convention and its program.

In view of this the Wake County Sunday School Convention had its birth, by electing the Reverend H Cooke of Wake Forest, North Carolina as its first president. Professor Allen Young was elected secretary and Dr. Freeman, treasurer.

The organization went to work to accomplish its objectives. A time and place committee was appointed. The committee reported that the annual session be held the fourth Saturday and Sunday in July each year

At the first meeting of organizing the convention a very few of the leaders in Wake County met because they felt the County Convention might cause some conflict in attendance in the State Convention.

The second annual session of the convention was held with the Riley Hill Baptist Church, 1899 and the year 1900 with the Providence Baptist Church. At this session Mr. David Pair was elected president and he served two years. Mr. W. H. Ray was elected president and was succeeded by Mr. Guyon Perry of Riley

Hill Church. Mr. Preddy was elected at the Wakefield Baptist Church session, but he did not serve. Therefore Mr. U. G. Jones, Wakefield Baptist Church was elected, and served in this capacity for four years.

These noble men struggled and encountered many obstacles and turmoils, but as a result of constant prayer and faithfulness the convention continued to survive.

In 1930 Mr. A. C. Parrish, Oak City Baptist was elected president and served in this capacity until 1950. The same year Mr. D. G. Goodwin was elected general missionary. In view of much missionary work to be done additional workers were needed. Reverend C. C. Jones, First General Supervisor was elected and served a short time. Mr. S. M. McCullers served in the same capacity and divided the schools into eight districts.

Under the noble leadership of Mr. A. C. Parrish the convention continued to grow. There were training programs set up in the convention and in the country to bring about Christian enlightenment. Reverend M. W. Williams was instrumental in this training.

In the year 1950 Mr. B. W. Lane, Springfield Baptist was elected president and served faithfully until the year 1961. At this time Mr. T. B. Jiles, Springfield Baptist Church, was elected and is now serving in this capacity.

The convention is still progressing as a result of much work done on the part of these presidents but these men were only individuals and there were many loyal and dedicated workers and supporters who kept this convention in its prospective. It would be good to mention their names but records as of 1967 are not available to do so.



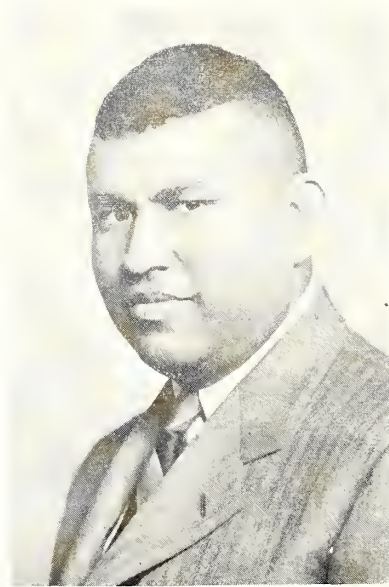
A FORMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

# The Year And Place Of Meeting

- 1907 — Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, N. C.  
1908 —  
1909 —  
1910 —  
1911 —  
1912 — Mount Bright Baptist Church, Hillsborough, North Carolina  
1913 — Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Neuse, North Carolina  
1914 — Union Grove Baptist Church, Youngsville, North Carolina.  
1915 —  
1916 —  
1917 — Holly Spring, North Carolina; Olive Branch, Wake Forest.  
1918 —  
1919 —  
1920 —  
1921 —  
1922 — First Baptist, Franklinton  
1923 — Saint Matthew Baptist Church  
1924 — New Bethel, Rolesville  
1925 —  
1926 —  
1927 —  
1928 —  
1929 — Main Street Baptist Church, Louisburg, N. C.  
1930 — Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, N. C.  
1931 — Friendship Baptist Church, Forestville, North Carolina  
1932 — Felts Chapel, Youngsville, North Carolina  
1933 — Olive Branch Baptist Church, Wake Forest, North Carolina  
1934 —  
1935 —  
1936 —  
1937 —  
1938 — Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church, Near Knightdale, N. C.  
1939 —  
1940 —  
1941 — Riley Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, N. C.  
1942 — First Baptist Church, Wilson, N. C.  
1943 — New Providence Baptist Church, Near Fuquay-Varina, N. C.  
1944 — Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Neuse, N. C.  
1945 — Baptist Grove Church, Near Raleigh  
1946 — First Baptist Church, Fuquay Springs, North Carolina  
1947 — Mount Bright Baptist Church, Hillsboro, N. C.

## **Chapter VI — The Wake County Baptist Training Union Convention**





**REVEREND OTIS DUNN**

**Former President of B. T. U. Convention.**

# History Of The Wake County Baptist Training Union Convention

The Wake County B. Y. P. U. Convention was organized in 1928 at Malaby's Cross Roads Baptist Church during the mid-session of the Wake County Sunday School Convention.

Reverend Avery Horton of Raleigh was elected president and served in this capacity approximately six months.

At the 1928 annual session Mr. Berry Wilcox of Method was elected President and remained in this office for three years until 1931.

The growth and progress of this organization deemed it necessary to increase the number of officers. As a result, in 1931 Mr. Henry Johnson was elected president, Mr. O. P. Dunn, Vice President; Miss Clarice Christmas, secretary and Mr. Joseph Ray treasurer. All of these officers served through 1936.

When the 1936 session met, this convention was eight years old and growing. At this convention Mr. A. A. Jones of Zebulon was elected president. Other officers included: Mr. Leroy Burton, Vice President; Mrs. Rachel Hall, Recording Secretary; Mr. Rochell Malone, Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Joseph Ray, Treasurer. All of these officers were serving in July, 1937 when the Convention met at Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Wendell. During this session eight B.Y.P.U.'s were represented. At this point there appeared to be a need for a general supervisor and district leaders to help organize B.Y.P.U.'s in churches throughout the County. Mrs. R. H. Morgan was elected general supervisor.

Twenty-seven dollars and thirty-six cents was raised at this convention. The total expenses were twenty-five dollars and ninety-three cents.

In 1939 under Mr. A. A. Jones' continued leadership, Mr. R. Perry was elected vice president, Mr. Otis Dunn, general supervisor and Mr. Dewitt Watson, treasurer. All other officers succeeded themselves.

When the convention met in 1941 the services of an organist was an apparent need. Mrs. Ethel Hopkins was appointed by the body to serve this need. It was during this session that Mr. Otis Dunn was elected president, Mr. Luther Royster, Vice President; Mr. Reuben Mills, general supervisor; Mrs. Rachel Hall, Secretary; Miss Gwendolyn Parrish, Assistant Secretary; Miss Rochelle Malone, Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Ransom Perry, Treasurer.

In 1942 most of the officers succeeded themselves. The newly appointed ones were: Mr. J. H. Debnam, Vice President; Mr. Luther Royster, Second Vice President; Miss Bettie Cooke was appointed organist. These officers served this convention until 1952.

Between 1937 and 1946 the B. Y. P. U. was changed to B.T.U. This move was made to include the adults in this important training program of the Baptist Church.

In July, 1952 the 24th annual session of the B.T.U. Convention as it was now called, convened at Wake Chapel Baptist Church. Mr. Leroy Burton was president; Mr. Philmore Dunn, Vice President; Mrs. Rochelle Malone, Secretary; Miss Mary Harris, Assistant Secretary; Miss Eunice Rogers, Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Calvin Hunter, Treasurer. At this convention a concert manager was appointed to take charge of the Friday night programs, now an important phase of the convention. Mrs. Gertrude Harris received the appointment. One hundred-eleven dollars and twenty-two cents was raised at this session and the expenses totaled fifty-five dollars and fifty cents. After the general election, the new officers for the ensuing year were: Mr. Philmore Dunn, President; Mr. Theodore Hodges, Vice President; Miss Eunice Rogers, Recording Secretary; Miss Mary Harris, Assistant; Mrs. Christine Street, Corresponding Secretary, and Mr. Calvin Hunter, Treasurer; Mrs. R. H. Malone, Concert Manager and Mrs. Ethel Hopkins, Organist.

When the summer of 1953 rolled around this convention found itself at Juniper Level Baptist Church near Garner. This was probably one of its best years when eighteen B.T.U.'s were represented.

Mr. Philmore Dunn was president from 1953 through 1962 or a total of ten years. During these years many things were done.

In 1956 at Riley Hill Baptist Church, Wendell, "The James F. Wertz Oratorical Contest" had its beginning in this convention as a preliminary to the contest of the same name in the State B.T.U. Convention. This has created much interest among the young people and is still conducted annually.

In 1958 at Springfield Baptist Church thirteen B.T.U.'s represented and one hundred fourteen dollars and eighteen cents was raised.

We can visualize the struggles this organization has had through the years.

In 1962 the convention held its 34th session with the Springfield Baptist Church. This was the last year Mr. Philmore Dunn served as president. The program was full. The following officers were elected: Mr. Frank Hinton, president, Mr. Claude Crews, vice president, Miss Eunice Leach, secretary, Mrs. Matilda Scott, assistant secretary, Mrs. O. D. Lane, corresponding secretary and Mr. Calvin Hunter, treasurer.

In 1964 most of the officers succeeded themselves. The changes were: Mrs. Matilda Scott, secretary, Miss Mary Harris, assistant secretary and Mrs. Mae Broadie, corresponding secretary.

At the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Wendell the 1965 convention made only a few officer changes. These changes were: Mrs. M. N. Perry, vice president and Mrs. O. D. Lane, Miss Mildred Chavis and Miss Mary Harris, Concert Managers.

The 1966 session convened at Wakefield Baptist Church. This

was the last year Mr. Frank Hinton presided over this convention. Mr. Hinton served as president from 1963 through 1966. During these four years B. T. U.'s were organized in several churches throughout the county. President Hinton was a strong advocate of the "Model B. T. U." and stressed it often. Training Conferences for B. T. U. workers was another area he saw a definite need for.

It was at Wakefield in 1966 that the Convention made a significant move by electing its first woman president. This honor was bestowed on Mrs. M. N. Perry from Wendell. Other officers changes were: Miss Paula Jones, vice-president, Mrs. Justina Williams, correspond-

ing secretary and Mrs. Bobbit and Mrs. Ora Webb were appointed to work with Mrs. O. D. Lane as concert managers. It was during this session that our first place Oratorical contest winner, Miss Lillie Miller from Raleigh went on to the State Convention and again won first prize. This was our first State winner.

As the Wake County B. T. U. Convention entered its 39th year and the 1967 session, we could see the great contribution this organization had made to the County.

In 1967 the Springfield Baptist Church again opened its doors to these meetings. The officers and

members came with an optimistic attitude concerning the future of this organization.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The historian is indebted to the following persons for materials contained in this brief history of our Convention:

Mrs. Cora Watson  
Mrs. Ethel Hopkins  
Mrs. Matilda Scott  
Mr. Philmore Dunn  
Mr. O. P. Dunn  
Mr. Bartell Lane  
Mr. Thomas Jiles  
Mrs. O. D. Lane

— Mrs. Justina Williams, 1967



## **Chapter VII — The Woman's Auxiliary Of The Wake Baptist Association**



**SOME MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AND THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY — 1968**

Front Row, Left to Right: Mrs. Edith Trice, President; Mrs. Margaret P. Taylor, Vice President; Mrs. Harriett P. Butler, Secretary; Mrs. Mattie H. Jones, Treasurer; Mrs. Mamies N. Perry, Former President and Mrs. Lizzie Askew.

Back Row, Left to Right: Dr. George S. Stokes, Moderator; Reverend C. R. Trotter, Vice Moderator; Reverend C. C. Jones, Clerk; Reverend W. A. Perry, Secretary of Union; Reverend Avery Horton, President of Union; Deacon R. B. Wilder, Vice President; Members of the Board: Reverends S. L. Suitt and A. M. Wiggins, Deacons R. R. Rayford and Filmore Dunn.



**GROUP OF OFFICERS AT THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION AND WOMAN'S AUXILIARY ABOUT 1930**

Mrs. B. E. Barrett, third from left on the front row, was the president; Mrs. Maggie Hall, Vice President; Mrs. Chanie Hall, Recording Secretary; Miss Mamie Faison, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. M. A. Hunter, Treasurer. Pictured with the group is Mr. Claude Laws.

# The Woman's Auxiliary Of The Wake Association

The Woman's Auxiliary of the Wake Association was organized in August, 1920, at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Wendell, North Carolina, under the Pastorate of the late Reverend Auphrey T. Price. The sainted brethren organized this auxiliary in order to give the ladies some Christian work to do among themselves while the Association was in session. The men instrumental in this organization were as follows: The late Drs. A. W. Pegues, F. F. Roberts, S. N. Vass, and Reverend J. W. Ligon who was Moderator of the Association at that time.

The women who were elected as the first officers were: Mrs. Bessie Barrett of Raleigh, President; Mrs. Maggie Hall of Wendell, Vice President; Mrs. Chaney Hall, Recording Secretary; Miss Mamie Faison, Corresponding Secretary, and Mrs. N. A. Hunter, Treasurer. These sainted women wrought well in their day. They have passed on to their rewards, but their influence labor is still with us.

The organization was begun without any money. Its purpose was, and is now to help the brethren of the Association to raise money for home and foreign missions, and other educational purposes.

Mrs. Barrett, who was at the head of the wheel, began organizing similar organizations throughout Wake County. Therefore, it was quite difficult in the beginning to interest women in the work. But she was patient, and untiring in her efforts. Often she left home at six o'clock in the morning to meet at some district church at the appointed hour. She gave credit to her faithful husband, Mr. Barrett who assisted her in making all her trips. Mrs. Barrett was exposed to severe weather conditions, while laying the foundation for the present, woman's auxiliary. But through all hardship, she stated, that it was a joy and a pleasure for her to do something for the upbuilding of God's Kingdom.

At the beginning of the organization, it was looked upon as nothing, because it was without pay. But Mrs. Barrett, soon had established thirty or forty circles in churches throughout the county, and was doing well spiritually, and financially.

After raising thousands of dollars to help the brethren sponsor the work, she organized the first Junior Auxiliary with Mrs. M. W. Williams as supervisor. Mrs. Williams was able to get together many young women, who have successfully carried the torch to others.

After Mrs. Barrett's resignation, Mrs. Mollie Dunston was elected as the president of the Auxiliary. Mrs. Dunston served well until her health prevented her. Miss Pennie Perry served as the first Junior President for a number of years. Mrs. Mamie N. Perry was the next president of the parent body. She continued the noble work begun by her predecessors. many new circles were organized under her leadership.

In 1963, after leading the Auxiliary for a number of years, the torch passed on to Mrs. Edith Trice who

is still president. Mrs. Trice has kept the circle alive these four years with the able help of all the brave churches: Funds have been raised for our objectives; Shaw University, Home and Foreign Missions

Presidents since the Auxiliary was organized:

1. Mrs. Bessie Barrett  
Vice President, Mrs. Maggie Hall  
Junior President, Mrs. M. W. Williams
2. Mrs. Mollie Dunston  
Mrs. Mamie Perry, Vice President  
Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President
3. Mrs. Mamie N. Perry, President  
Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Vice President  
Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President
4. Mrs. Edith Trice, President  
Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Vice President  
Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President.

## NAMES OF THOSE WHO SERVED AS OFFICERS IN THE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY SINCE IT WAS ORGANIZED IN 1920 AT PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

First officers were: Mrs. Bessie E. Barrett, President, First Baptist Church of Raleigh, North Carolina; Mrs. Maggie Hall, Vice-President, Wendell, North Carolina; Mrs. Chaney Hall, Recording Secretary; Miss Mamie Faison, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. N. A. Hunter, Treasurer.

1946 at Fuquay Springs, North Carolina the following officers were elected:

Mrs. Mollie Dunston, President; Mrs. M. N. Perry, Vice-President; Mrs. Lizzie B. Foster Askew, Recording Secretary; Miss Lena F. Marriott, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. V. L. Bunch, Treasurer, and Mrs. M. W. Williams, Junior Supervisor.

August 15-16, 1956 at Good Hope Baptist Church, officers of The Woman's Auxiliary were elected as follows:

Mrs. M. N. Perry, President; Miss Dorothy Jones, Vice-President; Mrs. Lizzie B. Askew, Recording Secretary; Miss Rachel Baker, Corresponding Secretary; Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President.

1961 at Springfield Baptist Church, officers elected were:

Mrs. M. N. Perry, President; Mrs. L. M. McClain, Vice-President; Mrs. Lizzie Askew, Secretary; Miss Hattie Raeford, Assistant Secretary; Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President.

1962, at Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina, the following were elected officers:

Mrs. Edith Trice, President; Mrs. L. M. McClain, Vice-President; Mrs. Lizzie B. Askew, Secretary; Miss Hattie Raeford, Assistant Secretary; Mrs. Mattie Jones, Treasurer.



1963 at Pilot Baptist Church, officers elected were:

Mrs. Edith Trice, President; Mrs. Margaret Taylor, Vice-President; Mrs. Harriet Butler, Recording Secre-

tary; Miss Pennie Perry, Junior President, and Mrs. Mattie Jones, Treasurer.

**Note:** This information was taken from the Minutes of the Association.

**Chapter VIII — The Ministers And Deacons Union**  
**(The Union Of The Wake Baptist Association)**



**Reverend Avery Horton, former  
President, The Ministers' and  
Deacons' Union.**



**CHAPTER VIII**  
**UNION OF THE WAKE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**  
**FORMERLY**

**THE MINISTER'S AND DEACONS' UNION**

The idea of a Ministers' and Deacons' Union must have been conceived around 1887. During this general period, the Association was dedicated to helping weak churches in their building programs, the Grant Orphan Asylum, Shaw University, theological students at Shaw University, and The American Baptist Home Mission Society. The receipts of the Finance Committee for the year 1889 was as follows:

We, your Committee on Finance submit the following:

Received from Churches for	
Associational Fund	....\$ 174.89
For Home Mission	..... 18.45
For Foreign Mission	..... 8.55
For Orphan Asylum	..... 7.00
Educational Fund	..... 7.27
Total	\$ 216.16
M. N. Dunn	
J. A. Fuller	
D. Jeffreys	
Committee	

With growing demands upon the resources of the Association, one must keep in mind the very tight times of this period in American history; it was but mutual that the leadership would think of ways to make the objectives of the Association more effective. The Ministers and Deacons Union was the answer. The minutes of 1889 state:

"Whereas, We need to be more aroused in the Missionary work; and Whereas:

We must devise a better plan of raising money for building new churches and aiding weak ones therefore be it:

Resolved, 1. That a Union Meeting be organized in each of the following districts, and meet on every fifth Sunday, when a Missionary Sermon will be preached and a collection taken and forwarded to the Treasurer of the Wake Baptist Association for the purposes named above:

1st District, Raleigh; 2nd Dis-

trict, Clayton; 3rd District, Smithfield, 4th District, Louisburg, 5th District, Franklinton; 6th District, Durham; 7th District, Holly Springs; 8th District, Wake Forest; 9th District, Mount Pleasant.

2. That the pastors of churches at the places used as district names be requested to call a meeting on the Fifth Sunday from now, and lead off in the organization of the Unions.

3. That each Union be requested to forward its missionary collection as soon as taken to the Treasurer of this Association, and keep an account of all monies sent to the above named Treasurer and report the same at each meeting of the Association."<sup>10</sup>

From the above statements about districts, it appears that some pastor, in the particular district, was responsible for raising the mission funds in his area. It appears that the Moderator served as the leader of the several districts. One must keep in mind that during this early period that the Wake Association covered several counties. From about 1889 until about 1920 the records are not available concerning the exact persons responsible for the leadership of the Union. It appears that from the organization of the union, this body has kept its own records for they are not included in the minutes of the Association.

At the time of the writing of this history, we have had to rely upon the memory of Reverend Avery Horton who served as president for about 16 years beginning around 1950. We have also relied on information from Deacon Robert Wilder who served as Vice-President for a number of years

The Reverend Avery Horton thinks there is a probability that the following ministers served as presidents of the Union at some earlier times: Reverend Harmon Pair, Reverend G. W. Todd, Reverend Eli Wimberly, and Dr. George

W. Moore.

Dr. George S. Stokes' biography states that he served as president of the Union from 1923-1925.

The Reverend A. A. Morrissey served as president of the Union during the early forties. Reverend J. F. Haywood was the secretary, followed by Reverend Omega Watkins. Deacon Guyon Perry served as Treasurer followed by Deacon Otha Holden.

The next President was the Reverend Avery Horton who was elected about 1950. Deacon Robert Wilder served as the Vice-President. Both of these men served for a number of years. Under the leadership of Reverend Horton the Union made rapid progress; a Union Choir was organized; study courses were developed for the needs of all age levels and increased offerings for the various objectives of the Association became a reality.

In 1966 Reverend B. V. Alston was elected President of the Union and Deacon Wilder continued to be the Vice. Reverend William A. Perry became secretary. Reverend Alston strengthened the teaching ministry of the Union. Under his leadership, the Union adopted a plan where reasonable donations were left with the Host Church to help defray expenses for entertainment.

The present officers are as follows:

President, Reverend B. V. Alston; Vice-President, Deacon Rudolph Lofton; Secretary, Reverend Grover Horton, Treasurer, Deacon Edward Holden; Pianist, Mrs. Ethel Hopkins.

History prepared by Reverend B. V. Alston, Reverend Avery Horton, Deacon R. B. Wilder and Reverend C. R. Trotter.

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<sup>10</sup> Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association Edwards and Broughton, Powers Printer and Bindery p. 11, 1889.

# The Year And Place Of Meeting

- 1948 — New Bethel Baptist Church, Rolesville, North Carolina
- 1949 — Riley Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, N. C.
- 1950 — First Baptist Church, Zebulon, North Carolina
- 1951 — Elizabeth Baptist Church, Near Spring Hope, N. C.
- 1952 — New Providence Baptist Church, Near Fuquay-Varina, N. C.
- 1953 — Jones Hill Baptist Church, Near Spring Hope, N. C.
- 1954 — First Baptist Church, Franklinton, North Carolina
- 1955 — First Baptist Church, Wilson, North Carolina
- 1956 — Good Hope Baptist Church, Shotwell, North Carolina
- 1957 — Wake Chapel Baptist Church, Millbrook, North Carolina
- 1958 — Pilot Baptist Church, Near Zebulon, North Carolina.
- 1959 — Macedonia Baptist Church, Near Wake Forest, N. C.
- 1960 — Riley Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, North Carolina
- 1961 — Springfield Baptist Church, Auburn, North Carolina
- 1962 — Martin Street Baptist Church, Raleigh, North Carolina
- 1963 — Pilot Baptist Church, Near Zebulon, North Carolina.
- 1964 — Baptist Grove Church, Near Raleigh, North Carolina.
- 1965 — Jones Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, North Carolina.
- 1966 — Riley Hill Baptist Church, Near Wendell, North Carolina.
- 1967 — Good Hope Baptist Church, Shotwell, North Carolina.
- 1968 — First Baptist Church, Franklinton, North Carolina.

## **Chapter IX — The Woman's Home And Foreign Missionary Union**



***Some Former Churches Which Have Gone To  
Other Associations***

Jackson Chapel (First Baptist, Wilson, North Carolina)

Mount Bright, Hillsboro, North Carolina

Pilot Baptist, Pilot, North Carolina

Elizabeth

Mount Zion, Cary, North Carolina

## CHAPTER IX

### HISTORY OF WOMAN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY UNION

The Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Union was organized in 1920 as The Sisters Union at Wakefield Baptist Church in Zebulon by Mrs. Roberta Bunn, a missionary worker and school teacher from Selma, North Carolina. Mrs. Bunn served for several years as the Bible teacher for the union. Other early officers were: President, Mrs. Octavia Bunn who was also president of Wakefield Baptist Church Circle Mrs. Modess Crudup and Mrs. Addie P. Hall served as Bible teachers. This organization had great Christian influence on the lives of many people. On the Second Sunday in March, 1944, at the First Baptist Church in Zebulon the group changed its name to the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Union of Wake County.

This was done at the request of Mrs. Martha J. Brown of Shaw University who was then serving as Field Worker for the State Convention. The first officers were: President, Mrs. Nettie Cannady; Secretary, Mrs. Lizzie Spruill; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Lizzie Askew; Treasurer, Mrs. Addie Hall; Mrs. Mollie Dunston, Supervisor; Mrs. Mary Dunn, Special Worker; Mrs. Roberta Bunn, Bible Teacher; Mrs. Etta High, Assistant. Other presidents were Mrs. Ellen Powell, 1946-1955; Mrs. Lizzie Foster Askew 1955-1966.

The present officers are President, Mrs. Mattie Jones; Vice Presidents, Mrs. Mary Crenshaw, Mrs. Ellen Alston, Mrs. Mary Jane Massenburg, Mrs. Annie McCullers, Mrs. Corinna Dunn and Mrs. Ruth

Hodge. Secretaries have been Mrs. Mammie Spruill, Miss Annie Smith, Mrs. Mamie Webster. The present officers are President, Mrs. Mattie H. Jones; First Vice President, Mrs. Mary Crenshaw; Second Vice President, Mrs. Mary Jane Massenburg; Third Vice President, Mrs. Miller; 4th Vice President, Mrs. Isabel Adam; Secretary, Mrs. Lovie Myatt, Assistant Secretary, Mrs. L. B. Askew; Treasurer, Mrs. Bessie Hood; Special Workers, Mrs. Ada Perry and Mrs. Ruth Hodge; Advisor, Mrs. Harriett Jones.

Junior Department Officers: President, Mrs. Evelyn Jones; Vice President, Mrs. Gladys Todd; Supervisor, Mrs. R. H. Malone and Mrs. Mollie Dunston; Advisor, Mrs. Harriett Jones.





## **Chapter X — The Churches Of The Wake Baptist Association**

# **The History of Bethlehem Baptist Church**

Bethlehem Baptist Church was founded in 1885 by a small group of persons. The church grew out of Baptist Grove Baptist Church and first started having meetings in an old Brush Harbor. After some years a church was built on the present site.

The first pastor was Reverend Jim Chavis. Some of the first officers were Deacon Ateas Chavis, Deacon Leonard Chavis and Deacon Cornelius Chavis. In later years the church was remodeled. As the church grew with more members more officers were named. Some of the deacons that were ordained were: Deacon Will Cannady, Deacon Seaton Dunn, Sr., Deacon O. W. Moore, Sr., Deacon Eddie Ray, Deacon Edward Moore, Deacon Theodore Chavis, Deacon Fred Lipscomb, Deacon Alton Dunn, Deacon Willie Chavis, Deacon Oris Harris, Deacon Joseph Walters and Deacon Joseph Dunn.

Since this church was organized we have had several pastors, some of them include: Reverend Millard Jones, Reverend Johnnie Jones, Reverend C. C. Clark, Reverend Kent Jones, Reverend W. F. Farrow, Reverend V. T. Williams, Reverend H. D. Eaton, Reverend W. B. Lewis, Reverend Leatha Debnam, Reverend Alex Terrell and Reverend W. A. Perry.

The deceased ministers are Reverend Jim Chavis, Reverend Millard Jones, Reverend C. C. Clark, Reverend Johnnie Jones, Reverend V. T. Williams, Reverend H. D. Eaton, Reverend W. A. Farrow and Reverend Alex Terrell. Since 1885, our church has increased its membership and has grown spiritually.

In 1967 annexation of a fellowship room was added to the present structure and in 1974 the church was again renovated. Stained glass windows have been installed by members and friends in memory of their relatives and in honor of living members. The entire Sanctuary was also completely renovated.

Our present officers are: Reverend H. V. Miles, Pastor; Mrs. Bettie P. Closs, Church Clerk; Deacon Willie Chavis, Treasurer; Deacon Theodore Chavis, Financial Secretary; Deacon Edward Moore, Chairman of Deacon Board and Deacon J. H. Walters, Chairman of Trustee Board.



T. Mial and Officers of Bethlehem Baptist Church.



The Sunday Morning Congregation of Bethlehem Baptist Church



# The History of Baptist Grove Church (1877)

The Baptist Grove Church is located on Route 6, nine miles northwest of Raleigh, North Carolina, near Leesville, North Carolina. It was founded by Reverend Larie Green and Reverend Daniel Tucker. It was received into the Wake Association in 1895.

The first building was one-room 10 feet by 20 feet structure made of logs (1878). The second structure was renovated three times. It was a frame structure neatly painted with belfry and bell, painted windows, stone steps, a choir stand, a pastor's study and a church office. Much of this remodeling has been done under the leadership of Reverend V. T. Williams, Pastor from 1926 until 1943. Prior to 1878, church services were held under a bush arbor. As a result of a great Revival meeting conducted by the Evangelists, Reverends Larie Green and Daniel Tucker, the bush arbor was replaced in 1878 with a log structure. The church chose both of the evangelists as pastors, and they worked harmoniously together. After the death of the Reverend Larie Green in 1885, Reverend Daniel Tucker became the sole pastor. The following pastors have served the church since the death of the founders: Reverends Plummer Hall (1902-1905), Will Wych (1905-1907), W. M. Plummer (1907-1912), R. B. Jones (1912-1924). From 1924 until 1926, the church was without a pastor. Reverend V. T. Williams became pastor in 1926, and he served until the fall of 1943. Reverend William A. Perry is the present pastor.

The first church officers were Mr. Clabon Fletcher, Mr. Sidney Mitchell and Mr. Jim Chavis. The late Mr. Clabon Fletcher was founder of the Fletcher's Grove Sunday School, a branch of the Baptist Grove Sunday School.

The church gave yearly the following amounts for various causes: Christian Education, \$25.00; Missions, \$50.00; the poor of the community, \$25.00, the Ministry, \$325.00; and the overhead expenses \$50.00.

The church has an active Baptist Training Union, a departmentalized Sunday School, and a Senior and Junior Mission Circle.

In 1944 Reverend W. A. Perry became the pastor and has been pastoring for 23 years.

The present church is a block structure, built since Reverend William A. Perry has been pastor (re-built 1958). A great improvement have been made under his leadership. The church has a senior choir, a junior choir and a carol choir, an usher board of about twenty senior and junior ushers. The new church is equipped with a modern heating system and air condition unit, rest rooms for both women and men. We also have a modern equipped kitchen. The baptizing pool is located under the choir stand and can be seen by everyone from their seats.

At present, the church has many auxiliaries, Pastor's Aide, Women's Auxiliary, Sunday School Missionary, Deacons Wives Auxiliary and four groups. The church has service twice a month. There are twelve deacons: Charles V. King, Senior Deacon; Ivory Leathers, Senior Deacon; Alonza H. Ray, Senior Deacon; Jimmie Leathers, Senior Deacon; Alexander King, Henry Holden; Thornie Holden; Millard Peebles; Victor Peebles; Paul Canady; Wallace Pretty; and Edward Chavis.

## The Historic Committee

Charlie V. King, Chairman  
Ivory Leathers



REVEREND W. A. PERRY

Pastor



BAPTIST GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH



# The Elevation Baptist Church History

The Elevation Baptist Church was organized on October 5, 1924. It was known as a school; it was not organized from a white church. The church was organized on the Old Milburne Road six miles east of Raleigh on the Old Tom Bridges' estate, and later bought by the Cheerful Givers Lodge Number One.

Names of outstanding members who aided in the organization of the church were as follows Reverend Seawell, Reverend H. Pear, Reverend A. T. Price, Brother Oley Bridges, Brother Johnny Seawell, Brother Scott Wilson, Sister Lottie Smith, Brother Clay McCoy, Brother Gates McCoy, Brother William Seawell, Sr., and Sister Mary Smith. To make the number to organize complete, we borrowed members from other churches.

**Some facts about the early leaders:** Reverend A. G. Seawell, Brother Oley Bridges, Johnny Seawell, Perch Hunter and Brother Gettie McCoy were the leaders who cleared the land and built the church.

**Names of the Pastors:** Reverend A. G. Seawell served 17 years, Reverend Otis Dunn served 8 years, Reverend Clyde B. Walton served 2 years, Reverend James Avery served 1 year, Reverend Vick Alston served 12 years, and Reverend W. A. Morgan served 3 years.

**Outstanding Contributions:** Brother Oley Bridges — first Sunday School Superintendent, and Chairman of the Deacon Board; Brother William Seawell — Superintendent of Sunday School

and outstanding contributions to Foreign Mission and Sunday School Convention; Brother Blanzie Williams — Present teacher of first Sunday School Bible Class and also seem to divide error from the truth.

**Outstanding Laymen:** Sister Isa Mae Williams — outstanding contributions in Sunday School teaching; Sister Gladys Seawell — outstanding contributions in the choir; Sister Maggie Harris and Sister Mary Seawell — outstanding contributions in mission work; and Sister Mary O'neal — outstanding contributions as usher.

Distinguished contributions that have been made by the church are as follows: Foreign Mission, Oxford Orphanage; Shaw University and all Baptist Associations.



Reverend W. A. Morgan and Members of Elevation Baptist Church

# First Baptist Church — Fuquay-Varina



REVEREND N. A. TRICE

The church was organized under the name of Union Baptist October 4, 1912. The first permanent structure was built September 12, 1913. Property was added during the years and the building was enlarged twice.

The name of the church was changed to First Baptist Fuquay in 1927.

The church was destroyed by fire January, 1941 but soon rebuilt on the same site.

Thirteen ministers served during the administration of the church: Reverends Paul Yancey, 1 year; Walter Thorpe, 2 years; A. V. Avery, 2 years; Tom Peace, 1 year; Henry Jenkins, 2 years; Johnnie Jones, 6 years; Lee Johnson, 8 years; C. C. Clark, 1 year; W. L. Wilson, 13 years; R. B. Sykes, 3 years; M. R. Silvers, 12 years; E. G. Williams, 1 year, and N. A. Trice, 12 years.

Through the cooperation of the members and auxiliaries, we have added an organ, pulpit furniture, carpeting, study furniture, pictorial window, indoor baptizing pool and kitchen furniture.

Two chartered members are still active members of the church: Mrs. Annie Walker and Mr. Ira Burton.

We, the members of the First Baptist Church, hope that we may continue to be an asset to our community and promote religion and good will to all mankind.

Reverend N. A. Trice, Pastor

John B. Stark, Clerk



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH — FUQUAY-VARINA



# History Of The First Baptist Church

Franklinton, North Carolina

Approximately one hundred and eight years ago what is now known as the First Baptist Church had her seeding in the white Baptist Church of which Dr. Wingate, then president of the old Wake Forest College, was pastor. Here in this church, according to a remnant of a previous church history and an oral tradition some Negroes were allowed to sit in the gallery and worship. Later it is reported that Dr. Wingate told the Negroes that they could organize their own church should there be at least twelve persons. Apparently the Negro worshippers met the requirements, for they erected their own frame church approximately two blocks west of the the present church located on the corner of South Main and West Green Streets. The site for the church was purchased from Mr. Henderson Fuller.

In the year 1868 the church called Reverend Marcellus Ransome as her first pastor. The church was fortunate to have found such a qualified man: a minister, teacher, and lawyer. Under his leadership, the newly founded church was able to maintain and strengthen her foundation by growing spiritually and numerically.

Prior records to 1895 could not be secured. However, there is a tradition which indicated that in 1887, the white Baptists, having decided to build a new church at a different site, offered to sell their edifice to the Negro Baptists. The Negroes accepted the offer and purchased the site and building located on South Main Street. In 1915 or 1916, dates varied, the church burned and some time later a new frame church was built. At the present, the church's basic architectural design remains the same except for the brick veneering and the fellowship hall.

Before a baptistry was installed within the church building, the candidates for baptism were immersed in a pond or river nearby. From oral traditions such places as the Ike Kearney and Simon Williams Ponds were indicated. Neighboring homes usually served as dress shelters. After the baptismal event, the people returned to the sanctuary to continue their worship services. According to one early account given in 1898, the membership consisted of five hundred and thirty-eight men and three hundred and five women.

The church served God not only on Sunday mornings but extended her arms to those about her by contri-

buted to the orphanage and the poor. The church was also interested in the mental growth of people. Therefore, she helped to maintain the Girls' Training School which was located in proximity to the Allen Chapel A. M. E. Zion Church. This parochial school grew out of a Baptist tradition. However, it could not be ascertained whether the church or another Baptist agency founded the school. Though the exact founding date is not known, there is indication of the school's existence before 1895. The school, at first, was basically for girls. Then it opened its doors to boys. A dormitory was built for the girls, and the boys were accommodated by Mr. Ulysses Allen and others. Among the long remembered personalities as principals and/or teachers, according to former students, are Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. Robinson, Reverend Tucker, Mrs. Southern, Mrs. Hockaday, Reverend Shepard Person, and Mrs. Freddie F. Cooke.

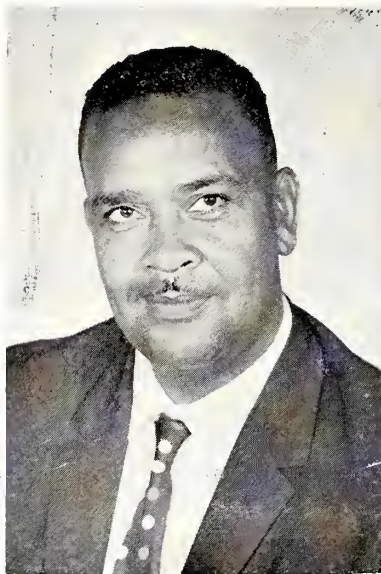
The pastors who respectfully succeeded the first pastor, Reverend Ransome, are the Reverends Joshua Perry, A. W. Pegues, Ph.D., (?-1895, 1896, 1925); N. W. Norman (1896 M. W. Williams (c. 1925-1948) J. H. Clanton (1948-c, 1956; J. N. Hughley Ph.D. 1956-1959); Charles Blalock (1959-1963); Amos Causey (1963-66); J. D. Lockley (1966-1969) and O. H. Brodie (1969-present). The church has also sent forth laborers or ordained ministers. Among them, according to available records and oral accounts, are the Reverends Shepard Person, Samuel Harris, Charles Harris, William T. Farrar, J. Enoch Kearney, Ollie H. Brodie, and John L. Daniels.

Though available materials did not always disclose dates of the organizing of the different auxiliaries, some of them which are contributing to the progressive growth of the church are the Deacon Board, Trustee Board, Sunday School, Missionary Circle, Junior and Senior Choirs, and the Usher Board. The church holds membership in the Wake Baptist Association and the General Baptist State Convention.

Looking back over one hundred and eight years of history, we perceive that the First Baptist Church has endeavored to promote and develop Christian character. For the legacy which she has left to the present church, we are grateful.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH — FRANKLINTON, N. C.



REVEREND J. D. LOCKLEY



101 South Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, North Carolina

### **I. A Bi-Racial Church was organized.**

First Baptist Church began as a bi-racial church March 7, 1812. The founding members came from the Baptist Church of Christ at Cool Spring in Wake County. Twenty three members organized the First Baptist Church in Raleigh. Nine of the founding members were white and fourteen were black. Of the nine white organizing members, five were female and four were male. Of the fourteen black members, nine were female and five were male.

The church was organized in the State House (Capitol). The membership remained bi-racial from 1812-1868, span of fifty-six years.

Elder Robert T. Daniel was called as the first pastor of the church. He served as pastor until 1815. By the year 1815, the black membership had increased to twenty-five. Over a period of six years, (1815-1821) three pastors served the church. Reverends Josiah Crudup, Thomas Crocker and James Woodberry.

The first church building was erected on Person Street between Hargett and Martin in 1816 at a cost of approximately \$700.00.

In 1822, The Reverend Robert T. Daniel began his second tenure as pastor and served until 1826. During this time the church was moved to Moore Square which was later to be known as Baptist Grove.

By 1823 the membership had increased to two hundred and twenty-six; one hundred and fifty-six blacks and seventy whites.

The Reverend J. W. Dowd served as pastor of the church from 1827-1832. He was succeeded by the Reverend William Hill Jordan who served until 1839. He was followed in the pastorate by the Reverend Amos J. Battle who served until 1844. During the pastorate of the Reverend Battle, the church purchased the lot on the corner of Wilmington and Morgan Streets from Willie Jones and constructed a church at the cost of \$6,000.00. The Reverend Louis Depre succeed Reverend Battle and served

for a short period.

In 1844, the Reverend J. J. Finch was called as pastor and served until his death in 1848. The Reverend T. W. Tobey succeeded The Reverend Finch.

The Reverend Thomas E. Skinner served as pastor from 1856 until 1868. During his pastorate the church purchased the lot on the corner of Salisbury and Edenton Streets from Jim Atkins, a black member at the price of \$6,000.00. The present edifice was built on this site.

### **II. Separation of White and Black Members**

The Reverend Thomas H. Prichard served as pastor from 1868-1874. In 1867 the black members purchased a site on Salisbury Street for the sum of \$612.00 and built a church. In 1868, Henry Jett and approximately two hundred other black members asked for and on motion of Peter F. Pescud, received their letters of dismission on June 5, 1868, to go to their newly formed church on Salisbury Street. The Church remained on this site for thirty-six years (1868-1904).\*

### **III. A Separate Church Begun.**

After the separation, First Baptist maintained its founding data of 1812. After the separation, the first pastor to serve was the Rev. William Warwick who served from 1867-1874. In February, 1874, the Reverend J. J. Worlds began the first of two tenures as pastor. He served until 1880. At the end of his pastorate, the Reverend William A. Green was called (1880). He served until his death in 1886. Born in Canada, educated in Boston, Massachusetts and Howard University, the Reverend Green aided the church in much growth.

The Reverend J. J. Worlds was called a second time in 1886 and served until 1902. During his pastorate the church purchased the site at Wilmington and Morgan Streets at a cost of \$2,000.00. The trustees to whom the property was deeded were: Allen Love, Brodie Rogers, Henderson Crossin, Richard Plummer and Booker Hardie.

The next pastor of First Baptist was the Reverend Dr. J. W. Kirby who was called in 1902. He was educated at Hampton Institute and Richmond Theological Institute. He served only eight months. His pastorate was cut short by death.

The Reverend Dr. W. T. Coleman followed Kirby as pastor. He was born in Uniontown, Alabama, educated at Selma, Alabama and Richmond Theological Seminary. Doctor Coleman was called to the pastorate of First Baptist Church in 1903 and served until 1912. During his pastorate, the present structure was built and the cornerstone was laid in 1904.

The next pastor of the black First Baptist Church was Doctor C. E. Askew (1912-1921). Dr. Askew was educated at Shaw University. Among his outstanding contributions to the church was the liquidation of the heavy indebtedness in a short time and the purchasing of a pipe organ which was used in worship until 1974 when a new pipe organ was built and installed. He resigned in 1921 to accept pastorates elsewhere.

List of first trustees yearly members, See FBC 1812-1962 p. 7

In August of 1921, Dr. Oscar Sidney Bullock began the longest tenure of any pastor in the history of First Baptist Church. He was born in Vance County, North Carolina and received his early education there. His college and theological training was acquired at Lincoln University, Oxford, Pennsylvania. He received honorary degrees from several schools. Under his pastorate, the church purchased a Sunday School bus which was among the first buses to be purchased by a church in the state. He led the church to see the need for expanded educational facilities and a three story educational building was erected at a cost of approximately \$20,000.00 and reorganized the Sunday School departments. In 1945 an additional building was purchased at a cost of \$25,000.00. (Bullock Building). Ten thousand additional dollars were spent on renovating and adapting this building to a Sunday School facility and multi-purpose room. A parsonage was purchased at the cost of \$9,000.00 and a second parsonage was built on



Bloodworth Street at Cabarrus at the cost of \$7,000.00. The church was air conditioned at the price of \$10,000.00 and pews were installed in the sanctuary costing \$5,000.00. First Baptist Church was the first black church in Raleigh to conduct a vacation Bible School for the children of Raleigh.

#### IV. The Present Chapter in First Baptist History

Dr. Charles W. Ward came to the pastorate of First Baptist Church as its eighth black pastor July 1, 1959. Dr. Ward is a native of LaGrange, Georgia. He attended public school in LaGrange and the college degree was received from Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia. He received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Howard University School of Religion, Washington, D. C., and a certificate in Psychosomatic medicine from Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina. In 1967, Shaw University conferred upon Reverend Charles Ward, the Doctor of Divinity degree. During

the sixteen years that Doctor Ward has been pastor of First Baptist, many physical and spiritual renovations and additions have been made.

The steeple has been renovated and stair well to balcony refurbished and new heating system was installed. A new roof has been installed on the Bullock Building. The old organ was renovated several times. The basement under the sanctuary has been completely renewed and refurbished. The art stained windows have been releaded, renovated and storm windows installed. A new copper roof has been installed over the sanctuary. A new fourteen rank Moller pipe organ has been installed. The interior of the sanctuary has been restyled and renovated, a new freezer-fridge-dish locker has been installed in the kitchen, a new piano has been installed in the sanctuary. New equipment throughout renovated areas has been installed. A new Sunday School bus has been purchased all at a cost of approximately \$310,000.00. Four fifths of the cost of

these renovations and additions have been on a cash basis.

In addition to the physical renovations and additions approximately eight hundred new members have been added to the roll of the church.

One additional phase of the renovation program remains to be completed, that is the renovation of the Bullock Building.

Continual renewal of spiritual values remain the goal of First Baptist Church, through the long history of First Baptist, loyal members have remained loyal. Pastor Ward surmises that this is the most important ingredient in the formula for the future of a great church — loyalty of its dedicated members.

The trustees whose chairman is Mr. W. C. Davenport have supervised the work of renovating the church. Mr. J. W. Eaton served as Chairman of the organ committee. Mr. W. W. Hurdle served as chairman of the renovation committee. Members of the several committees can be found in the 1975 edition of the Dedication and Rededication of the Church.

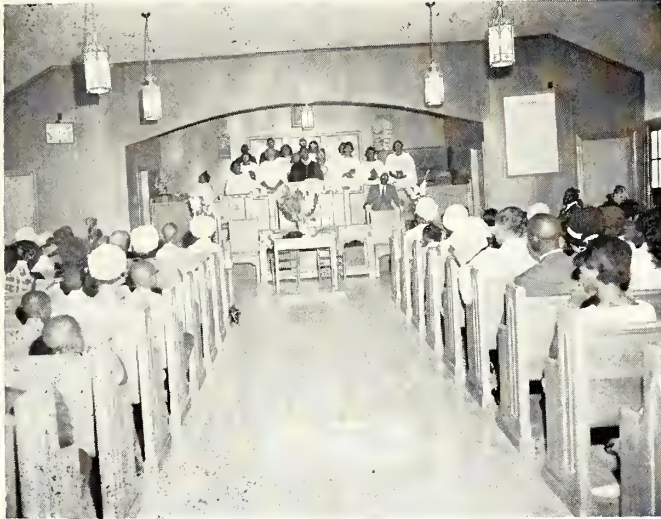


THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH — RALEIGH

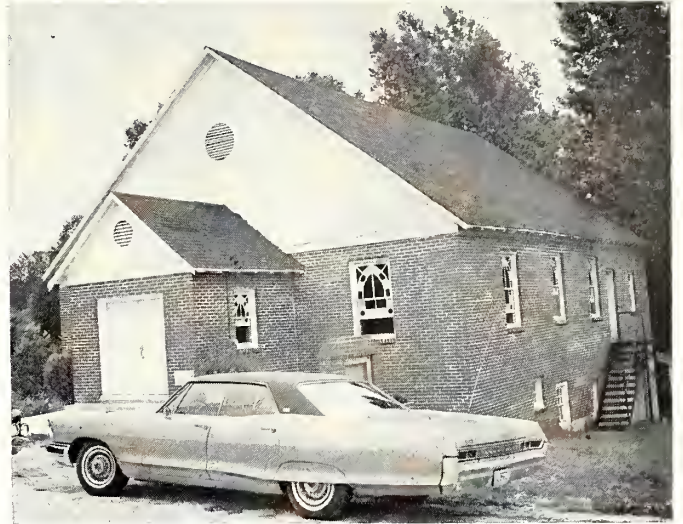


DR. CHARLES W. WARD

# Zebulon First Baptist Church



THE INTERIOR OF THE CHURCH



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH — ZEBULON

The Zebulon First Baptist Church of Zebulon, North Carolina was organized July 6, 1913. This church is located on East Barbee Avenue, Zebulon, North Carolina.

Some of the names among the founders and early members are:

Y. K. Morton  
T. B. Ellis  
W. B. Wright  
P. G. Mitchell  
J. A. Gresham  
R. Wright  
R. Harris  
B. Tom.

Some of the ministers that served during the previous years were:

Reverend H. D. Eaton  
Reverend C. A. Marriott  
Reverend J. M. Jackson  
Reverend A. Horton

The present structure was built in 1950 under the leadership of Reverend Avery Horton. The present pastor, Reverend John Mangum, is now leading the congregation in remodeling the church.

Our struggle really began when the church was destroyed by fire in 1938. We had our Sunday School in the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gresham. We held our worship services at the Mount Zion Holiness Church for about twelve months.

In 1940 the church members decided to repair the basement. It was covered with tin and at that time the repair bill was only one hundred and fifty dollars. For the next ten years this was to be our place of worship. In 1950 the present structure was completed.

The present membership is one hundred and fifty. The value of the church property is forty thousand dollars.

Reverend John Mangum, Pastor  
J. H. Wright, Chairman of the Deacon Board  
Griffin Todd, Chairman of the Trustee Board  
Mrs. Isabelle Wright, Finance Secretary  
Mrs. Gladys Todd, Church Clerk



# History of First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church

## 1515 CROSS LINK ROAD

In the year of 1895, a small group of blacks, felt the need of religious training, and decided to purchase a place where they could put their dreams into reality.

Reverend John T. Pullen, serving as pastor of a church called "The Little Mission Church" located at 751 Fayetteville Street, Raleigh, North Carolina agreed to sell this property to this small group of blacks.

The building was small but large enough to accommodate this small membership of 16.

August 1, 1895, an agreement between W. H. Matthews party of the first part, and H. T. Mitchell, T. B. Edwards, Prince Crenshaw, Joseph High, and Sylvester Jeffries, Trustees, party of the second part. The church building was purchased for the sum of \$800.00, with \$50.00 down, \$750.00 to be paid, with payments of \$100.00 per year to be paid in seven and a half years. The church was named Fayetteville Street Little Mission.

As this small group began to work together to the Glory of God, the church began to grow spiritually and numerically.

The following persons served as pastors:

Reverend Robert Blake partially organized the group, the tenure of his pastorate was six months; Reverend Edwards, three years; Reverend A. T. Price, two years; Reverend R. S. Johnson, three years; Reverend M. S. Shaw, three years; Reverend W. H. Mitchener, three years; Reverend M. F. Jones, twenty-one years. Reverend Jones was also Vice Moderator of Johnston County Association. Reverend J. W. Jones, thirty-eight years; Reverend Jones was Moderator of Johnston County Association for many years. Reverend J. W. Jones increased the membership greatly, and also the Sunday School. He changed the wood structure to stone, and many auxiliaries were born under his administration.

Our present pastor, Dr. W. B. Lewis accepted the challenge as pastor in 1964, with a wealth of experience he led the people into new-awareness.

The purchase of land at the cost of \$56,000.00, the erection of a new edifice at a cost of \$300,000.00, bus service was organized, and three buses purchased to bring members to and from church. The membership increased greatly, and the spiritual life of the church heightened.

In 1973 a Day Care Center was organized with an enrollment of 90 students per day. Budget increased from \$20,000.00 to \$100,000.00.

The name of the church was changed in 1969, from Fayetteville Street Baptist Church to First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church, because of the relocation.

Many auxiliaries were born, and a yearbook inaugurated. Three choirs organized, and two usher boards. The entire church organization has realized a great spiritual growth spiritually, financially and materially.

The following persons served as Clerks of the church:

Sister Lucy Smith, Brother M. G. Watkins, Sister Corinna Jeffries, Brother Geanaders Lucas, Sister Carrie Haywood, Brother W. F. Peterson and our present Clerk, Brother Luther Hunter.

The following persons served on the Board of Trustees:

Brothers Joseph High, T. B. Edwards, Sylvester Jeffries, M. G. Watkins, Brother Scarborough, Brothers Sidney Dunn, Paul Whitaker, T. R. Herndon, Durock Bass, Dr. F. D. Burroughs, Brothers Elliott Harrison, Herman Miles, Lyon Berota, Thomas Chavis, W. C. Parks.

Brothers James Phillips, Samuel Harris Joseph Whitaker, Arthur Rand, Lynn Johnson, W. F. Peterson, James Bunch, Frank Grant, Gregg Johnson, Chester Byrd, A. C. Winston, Horace McClain Brother Ray and Brother Vance Evans.

The following persons served as Deacons:

Deacons Soloman Steptoe, Sylvester Jefferey, Joseph High, Allen Mitchell, Daniel Fleming, Bennett Davis, Deacon Edgerton, Deacons Prince Crenshaw, Ceton Hinton, M. G. Watkins, N. F. Perry, A. T.

Mitchell, H. S. Baker, Frank Dunn, Willie Grier, Joseph Hines, Rufus McCullers, Joe Taylor, James Richburg, Elmer Horton, James Norwood.

Deacons Robert Fox, Henry Davis, William Rogers, J. R. Hopkins, George Lassiter, Clay Barbitt, William Scarborough, Sidney Dunn, Mingo Kelly, Earl Stanback, Malby Banks, T. R. Herndon, Joseph Whitaker, James Bunch, J. R. Jones, Roosevelt Smith, Robert Thorpe, Luther Hunter, Carey Ruffin, Edward Brooks, J. D. Rowe.

The following persons served as Organists:

Sisters Mamie Taylor, Lettie Allen, Corinna Jeffery, Elizabeth Mitchell, Elizabeth Jones, Annie B. Partridge, Pearl Smith, Minnie Drake, Pattie Alston, Inez Little, Debra Davis, W. F. Peterson, Lillian Branch, Janie Lindsey, Brother Benjamin Thomas, Sister Wilhelmia Lewis, Brother Bill Howcott, Sister Mary Hilliard, Sister Joan Hunter, Sister Juliet Battle.

The following persons served as Choristers:

Brothers George Herndon, William Trice, James Clay, George Peppers, Sister Ruth Johnson and Brother Samuel Hinton.

The Usher Board was organized in 1912. Two charter members, Brother Samuel Harris and Brother Howard Rand.

In addition to the charitable role this congregation has played, in this community, across the years it has produced preachers who have had a great part in shaping this nation. These are the late Reverend Elex Terrell, Reverend Halvester Miles, Reverend Isaac Lee, Reverend Frederick Terry, Reverend W. G. Hall, Reverend John Bryant, Reverend Joseph Ratliff, Reverend Horace McClain and Dr. W. B. Lewis.

To the great host that has passed to the beyond, well done for a job gratifying to our God, and to our people.

Thanks for those left behind, for you have shown that with faith all things are possible.



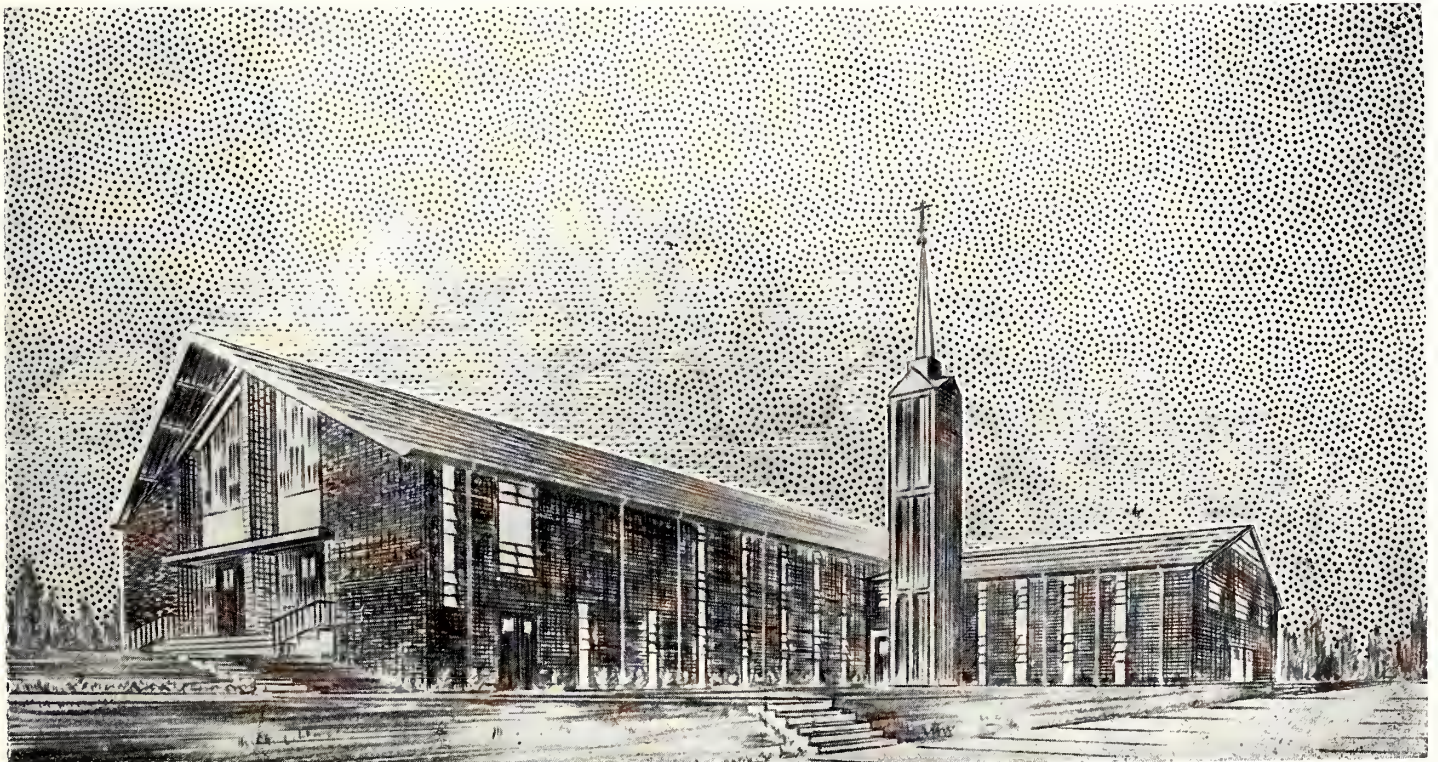
# The First Cosmopolitan Baptist Church



THE FIRST COSMOPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
1515 Cross Link Road  
Raleigh, North Carolina



DR. W. B. LEWIS



DRAWING OF THE FIRST COSMOPOLITAN BAPTIST CHURCH



# History Of Friendship Baptist Church, 1866-1966

The Friendship Chapel Baptist Church is situated just off U. S. Highway 1-A, fifteen miles north of Raleigh and one mile south of Wake Forest, North Carolina in the village of Forestville.

This church came into existence under very unusual circumstances. The actual church movement had its roots in the secret midnight meetings which were held sometime between 1845 and 1865 one mile East of the present structure. On this spot, two hills met and formed a cave which secluded these worshippers from their slave masters. Here they prayed to God for deliverance. A spring branch flowed nearby. Today, this two acre spot is the original cemetery of the Church. It is overshadowed with aged pines, cedars, oaks, hollies, dogwood and assorted evergreens. It is carpeted with ancient violets, running rose bushes and various flowers.

Here may be found the bodies of the pioneer families, founders and friends of the church. Many decendants of these honored dead are on the present church roll. This spot is no longer the burial ground for it is filled to capacity.

From 1865 to 1867 some of the Negroes (blacks) of this area and adjacent communities worshipped with the Forestville Baptist Church (white). Many continued to worship at the previous secret site under a brush arbor.

During a revival meeting at the white church in 1866, "Uncle Nelson Ligon" was converted to the Christian religion, at which time he jumped from the slave gallery into the white audience. The meeting was dismissed at once because of the emotionalism of the Negroes. This incident gave rise to the founding of the Friendship Baptist Church.

On the second Saturday in July, 1866, the white people of Forestville met and drew up plans to give these Negroes a church site. Perhaps by coincidence, this site was the same secret meeting place used by the slaves prior to 1865.

In 1867 this bush arbor was abandoned and a log cabin was built featuring an open fireplace and one window. This window was closed by boarded slabs.

The second structure, 1873-1890, was a weatherboarded oblong type of structure with ten small windows, half of them opened and the other half with panes. The source of heat was a stove in the center of the floor. The chimney was of the flue type suspended in the ceiling. Later, a bell was placed on a pole in the yard beside the front door.

In 1890 the land just back of the present structure was purchased in part and a portion was donated to the Negroes for a church site. As result a new building was erected in that year, 1890; size, 60 feet by 50 with a belfray and a tall steeple. This building had ten oval shape windows. This building was considered the most beautiful of its kind among Negroes in its day. It served the congregation from 1890 to 1929.

During this period of time, the church reached the height of its enrollment, about, eight hundred. A large membership was maintained under the pastorate of the late Reverend W. A. Jones, (known as 'Bill Jones'). The Reverend J. W. Jones, who pastored later, carried a large membership also.

With faith and courage, the membership built the present sanctuary in spite of the depression. This is a brick structure. It was dedicated on the First Saturday and Sunday in May, 1929. The edifice was built under the leadership of the late Reverend J. W. Jones.

The names of pastors and their dates are as follows:

Reverend George Harris, 1870-1876.

Reverend (Samuel Johnson) Caesar Johnson 1876-1885

Reverend Tom Edwards 1885-1890

Reverend W. A. Jones (Bill Jones) 1906-1913

Reverend J. W. Jones 1913-1932

Reverend George S. Stokes 1931-1972.

According to the earliest minutes of the Wake Baptist Association, Reverend Caesar Johnson seems to be the founding pastor of Friendship. Reverend Johnson was one of the original students in Dr. Henry Martin Tupper's Class. It is possible that Reverend Harris played a part in the founding both Friendship and Olive Branch. The above paragraph was inserted by Reverend Trotter.

Under the leadership of Dr. Stokes many things have been accomplished: Educational Building erected, central heat, running water, inside toilets, stained glass windows and a cement basement floor. Improvements in the organization of the church have been made. Such as choirs, new Conn organ and piano have greatly improved the worship service.

The present deacons are:

Abron Dunn, Chairman; Sam Smith, Lee Robert Mitchell, T. T. Alston, Herbert L. Burnette, Wesley Dunn, Dave Dunn, Dave McNutt, Sylvester Hodge, James Williams and James Smith.

The present Trustees:

James Smith, Chairman; Lee Robert Mitchell, Ruben Mills, James Williams and William Durham.

The first one hundred years of Friendship Baptist Church have been very rewarding. Due to the prayers of slaves at midnight, hard work and supplication of pioneer families, founders pastors, officers and members and many friends much has been wrought under God.

Now as we stand upon the threshold of a new Century in the life of this church, our hopes are that the future will bring new challenges for these times.

Historical Committee  
Dr. Otis E. Dunn and  
Wesley Dunn

# A History Of Good Hope Baptist Church

## Early Roots in Hephzibah Baptist Church

From all available records, Good Hope Baptist Church is a daughter of the Hephzibah Baptist Church, white, which is situated on Highway 64 East, about four miles west of Wendell. Black members were recorded on the rolls of that church as early as May, 1810 and thereafter until 1912 when the last one died in person of "Aunt Hixie Merritt." She was the last black member buried in that cemetery. In 1823 Hephzibah Baptist Church's membership consisted of 88 males, 120 females and 40 blacks. The record of 1832 mentions two black deacons serving the church.

"Hephzibah Baptist Church was constituted by Elder John Purefoy of Wake Cross Roads and John Galley of the Rock Spring Church of Johnston County. The ten original members were: William Broadwell, Henry Jordan, Reuben Jordan, Lott Robertson, Martin Hall, Savina Bagwell, Christina Bagwell, Mary Jordan, Sophia Hocutt and Martha Hall. The date of this organizational meeting was December 30, 1809. John Purefoy was elected pastor." (1)

Prior to 1865 the custom and practice was for blacks to worship in white churches. They were not accepted on par with their white sisters and brothers. The records of Hephzibah show that blacks were taken into membership constantly. In September, 1863 the Minutes of Hephzibah state: "Received by experience John Morgan (Colored); Louis, servant of B. Y. Debnam; Grizzie servant of A. B. Foster; Lewis, servant of G. W. Scarborough." (2)

The October meeting of that same year shows: "Betsey, servant of Joseph Fowler; Badger, former servant of Jackson Terill; Mazie Hall, a free Colored woman were received in membership." (3)

Between 1840 and 1860 there was much growing discontent among the colored brethren and sisters all over the country. It was during this period that many of our independent churches and denominations were born. Hephzibah was no exception. In the December meeting of 1865, a motion was recorded which stated: "Granting the colored brethren and sisters the privilege of worshipping among themselves rescinded." (4) The meaning of this motion is that the blacks had already been granted the privilege of leaving the Mother Church, but at this meeting, this action was rescinded. This shows further that there was much confusion in the church over the status of blacks.

The Minutes of 1866 states: "Agreed that the church grant her colored members a letter in a body and constitute them into a separate church." (5) It is unfortunate that we do not have the details of the organization of a separate church. Just how many members formed this church is not known. We do not know how much assistance the white brethren gave the colored, if any. If the colored brethren and sisters came out of Hephzibah Baptist Church as this motion states, in 1866, it is probable that Good

Hope Baptist Church is 105 years old. There is much validity in this motion because in a regular worship service, as the colored members were worshipping in the balcony, a deacon Scarborough asked them to leave because of emotional outcries.

After the colored members came out of Hephzibah Baptist Church, they seemed to have followed patiently like the Children of Israel in "Wilderness Wandering." They seemed to have moved from first one place and then another for a period of about 10 or 12 years. It seems that all of the colored members did not leave the Mother Church. According to relatives testimonies those members who did leave, the number unknown, met first under "Brush Arbors" at a place called "Butterstump," between Eagle Rock and Buffalo. We do not know how long they remained there, but a few years later we were told that they met at a place called "Black Anchor" near Brother Ruth Dunn's farm. Some time around 1875 this little band is reported to have built a long hut about "twenty by twenty" some where in the neighborhood of the old rock near S. M. McCullers' farm. We are not able to document with any degree of certainty the activity of this period.

Brother Sylvester Mial related that a John Curry Known as "Father Curry" and the Reverend Essic Blake were instrumental in the organization of Good Hope Baptist Church. When the question of a name came before the members, Father Blake said call the church, "Good Hope." It is my candid opinion that the Reverend Mr. Essic Blake aided in the organization of The First Baptist Church, Clayton; Springfield Baptist Church Auburn; Wake Baptist Grove, Garner; and the Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, Reverend Blake was instrumental in organizing the Johnston District Association and perhaps was its first Moderator about the year of 1885. I am told by those who remember Reverend Blake that he was of small stature, but possessed great power as a preacher.

We know with certainty that by 1878, the Good Hope Baptist Church had been organized with deacons and trustees. A deed recorded in the Wake County Court House in Book No. 56, page 8 is dated December 1878, made to:

"Banks Price, Simon Price, Isham Pair, Allen Miles and Haywood Wilder, Trustees of the Good Hope Baptist Church all of the State and County Aforesaid. Witnesseth: That in consideration of twenty-five dollars, in hand paid to said Wm. B. Doubd and L. L. Doubd have bargained and sold, and they do hereby bargain and sell and convey to said trustees and their successors in office, all their rights, title and interest in and to the following tract of land, situated:



Beginning in the Middle of the Smithfield Road near the N. W. Corner of the Shuck House field and running just north of a large pine side tree Due East (3.1). Three and one tenth chains to the line; Thence with said line North 3 degrees. East (3.1). Three and one tenth chains to stake and pointers; Thence due West to the Middle of the Smithfield Road; thence down the said Road to the beginning, containing one Acre, More or less. (6)

It is further mentioned in the records of Hephzibah Baptist Church that twenty-five dollars was given to the colored brethren to purchase a church site; and the record also show that twenty-five dollars was the purchase price for the original tract.

The first pastor of the Good Hope Baptist Church, as far as the available records go, was the Reverend Essic Blake, who at this time must have been in his early years. Some other early leaders, other than those mentioned in the deed were, "Brisker Jones," Sonnie Powell, Green Hinton, Ransom Mial, Clark Griffis and Fenner Terrell.

About 1894, or there about, the church must have realized the need for a cemetery.

According to a deed, made this the 7th of March, 1894, C. Hendrick Williamson of Wake County, and State of North Carolina, of the first part, to Haywood Wilder, B. T. Terrell and Isham Pair, Trustees of Good Hope Baptist Church, Shortwell, N. C., of Wake County and the State of North Carolina of the second part, Witnesseth:

That said C. H. Williamson in consideration of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars to him Paid by said Trustees, Haywood Wilder, B. T. Terrell and Isham Pair, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, has bargained and sold . . . to said trustees . . . a certain tract or parcel of land in Wake County, State of North Carolina, adjoining the lands of L. L. Doubd, Good Hope Baptist Church and C. H. Williamson (said land being designated a graveyard for Good Hope Baptist Church. (7) According to this deed the graveyard is 420 feet by 210 feet being two acres, more or less. The deed is recorded the 12th of November, 1894. Millard Miles was the Register of Deeds.

The second pastor of Good Hope Baptist Church was the Reverend Robert Shepherd. (Bob) Shepherd. We don't know the end of Reverend Blake's pastorate nor the beginning of Reverend Shepherd's; but some of the older members who knew Reverend Shepherd said he pastored about fifteen or twenty years. According to the Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association for the year 1881, fifteen years after the constitution of the church, the total membership was 100 persons; thirty males and seventy females. The delegates that year were Clark Griffin, F. Terrill and Haywood Wilder. The total valuation of the church was listed as \$2,000.00.

In the year of 1892 the Minutes of the Wake Baptist Association list the Reverend S. B. Barker as the pastor of the church and a membership of 210.

The Minutes of 1893 listed Reverend Joseph Perry as pastor of the church. He was also at that time, the Moderator of the Wake Association, and the teacher in the Shotwell Community.

The records of 1901 list the Reverend A. T. Price as pastor and G. H. Williams as clerk. The membership was 220. The Reverend Price served this church on two different occasions. He must have been a young man at this pastorate which covered a period of two or three years.

The year 1905 records the Reverend W. S. Wyche as pastor and Arthur Jones as clerk. We do not know just how long Reverend Wyche served, but we are led to believe that it covered several years: It was reported of him that he was a "powerful preacher."

It is thought by some of the members that the Reverend Dr. George W. Moore followed Reverend Wyche, but I do not find any records to substantiate this assertion Sister Mazie Johnson, Cora A. Watson and Brother Joseph J. Blake state that he did conduct a great revival about this time when many persons came to Christ. Whether he was pastor or just the evangelist is not clear.

The year 1912 found the Reverend A. B. Vincent as pastor and R. G. Dunn as clerk. Reverend Vincent served until 1917. **The North Carolina Edition of the American Negro** states that he pastored for seven years. It is probable that he assumed the pastorate around 1910. If this is the case his tenure would be as A.B., A.M., and D.D and a member of the faculty of Shaw University. (8)

The Reverend A. T. Price came back to Good Hope for a second pastorate in 1918 and served until his death in 1928.

The Reverend John Henry Clanton served as pastor from 1929 through 1930. The Reverend Clanton was followed by the Reverend E. M. Saunders who served several years. He was followed by a local son of the church, the Reverend Charlie Jones who served about one year.

In 1938 the Reverend A. B. Johnson became pastor and served until December, 1942. Under his leadership the church was covered with tin shingles and a conference room was erected.

About the early part of 1943, the Reverend C. L. Faison was called to the church, but chose not to serve.

On the second Sunday in February, 1943 the Reverend Claude R. Trotter was invited to supply the pulpit and that following April the church extended him a call. He accepted and has served the church through some of the most productive years of its long history. After about a year's observation and study of the church, Pastor Trotter saw the need for better organization. He recommended the "group system." The church was divided into six geographical areas. The

original areas and their leaders were as follows: Shotwell, Mrs. Carrie McCullers, who declined in favor of her daughter, Mrs. Hattie Bryant; Good Hope Group, Mrs. Bessie Hinton who declined in favor of Mrs. Laura Ruth Hinton who served for about fifteen years; Eagle Rock, Mrs. Viola Johnson who served until Eagle Rock merged with Shotwell and other groups; Knightdale, Mrs. Annie Jones; Auburn, Mrs. Zenobia Jones; and Raleigh Group, Mrs. Mary Jane Adams. The groups have been a real blessing to the church both financially and spiritually.

The deacons have played an important role in the long history of our church. Some of the deacons were: Isham Pair, Brisker Jones, Simon Price, Banks Price, Haywood Wilder, Conley Bryant, Fenner Terrell, Sr., Allen Miles and Green Hinton. The next set of deacons were Rufus Merritt, Felix Watson, Richmond Hinton, Porter Powell, Badger Terrell and Arthur Jones, Sr. These deacons were followed by Sylveter Mial, Ruth Dunn, Augustus Goodson, Sr., S. M. McCullers, Collins Hinton, Henry Coffey and James H. Watson. About 1944 the church elected the following brothers as deacons: Fred Debnam, Fenner Bryant, Marion Goodson and Early Johnson. Some years later Norman Dunn, Lemuel Mials, Henderson McCullers and Ollie Dunston joined the ranks. Brother Nathan H. Watson moved his membership from Lee's Cross Road Baptist Church and was accepted with full rights as a deacon. The next men elected to the deaconship were Leonard Williams and Walter Williams. The last set of men to be elected as deacons were Theodore Goodson, Ones Polk, Walter Hinton and Willie E. Jones. Dalon Freeman moved his membership from Smith Temple Free Will Baptist Church, and was later accepted as a deacon of Good Hope Baptist Church.

The present roster of deacons are Nathan H. Watson, Fred Debnam, Dalon Freeman, Marion Goodson, Fenner Bryant, Walter Williams, Ollie Dunston, Ones Polk, Theodore Goodson, Walter Hinton and Willie E. Jones.

The present roster of trustees are J. W. Evans, Isaiah Goodson, Arthur Barbour, Garfield Bryant, James Coffey, Sidney Lee Hinton, Otis Williams and Joseph J. Blake who is also the present treasurer.

In 1948 the church engaged Mr. Eugene Savage to design a new church edifice 42' x 90'. By 1951 sufficient funds, with the help of members and friends who do-

nated timber, had been gathered for the erection of a new church. Pastor Trotter was engaged to supervise the construction of the building, and by the end of 1952 the building project was well on its way. On June 30, 1957 the new church was dedicated formerly by the Reverend Samuel Moss Carter of Richmond, Virginia.

The stain glass windows are donations from individuals and groups. The H. R. Coffey family, the Johnson Family, the A. I. Goodson Family, and the S. M. McCullers Family gave the windows which bear their names. The window which bears the name of Deacon Collins Hinton and Mrs. Zenobia Jones was donated by the Auburn Group in their memory. The window which bears the name of Mr. G. H. Williams and Mr. Alex Hines was donated by the Knightdale Group. The window which bears the name of "Aunt Jane Jones" was donated by Mr. Carl Williams. The window which bears the name of Mrs. Cora Pair Thomas was given by the church in memory of the distinguished Christian work of a former member in Liberia, West Africa. The large window in the front of the church was given through the efforts of Mrs. Bessie Coffey. The window which bears the name of Mrs. Inez Dunn was donated by the Shotwell group. The picture of "Jesus in the Garden" was donated by the Debnam Family several years later.

On June 3, 1957, the church purchased thirty-six pews fifteen feet long from Southern Desk Company at a cost of \$4,025.00. A few years later the church installed a new Hammond Organ. In the spring of 1967 the church launched a building program to include Sunday School rooms, kitchen and dining area. During this time the membership doubled. In 1970 the church purchased four acres of additional land, making a total of eight acres of land owned by the church. All of these physical accomplishments have occurred under Pastor Trotters long pastorate.

The new pulpit set is a donation to the church by the deaconess, under the leadership of Mrs. Annie Bryant.

The Bulletin Board in the front of the church is a donation of Miss Elmore Pace, given in the honor of James and Hattie Pace, her father and mother.

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REVEREND C. R. TROTTER



GOOD HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH — ORGANIZED AROUND 1865



# Holly Springs Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church, Holly Springs, N. C., was organized with fifty-two members in 1866.  $\frac{1}{2}$  acre of land was purchased between the fork of Buckhorn and the Fuquay roads for the church, which was a log-cabin. The first deacons were: Robin Blaylock, Peter Peddy, Sam Clemons, Bob Fuquay, Jesse Beckwith, Tom Burt, New Ballentine, Quinton Jones, Bill Leslie and Ned Hunter. Secretary, James Howell; Treasurer, Bill Burt; Pastor, Reverend Bob Shepherd.

Two years afterwards a new church was built which was destroyed by fire, a new frame building was erected soon after the fire which was renovated during 1936 under the leadership of Reverend W. M. Smith.

Under the leadership of the present pastor, Reverend James O. Avery (1952). The frame church has had a complete face lifting — brick veneered — Sunday School rooms, Memorial Windows, Basement, modern conveniences, under the skill of the late George T. Grisby, a Trustee.

The pastors of the church have been Reverends Bob Shepherd, Gus Shepherd, T. B. Edwards, Lewis Hackney, Peter Malloy, Daniel Hicks, Joseph Perry, Mil-lard Jones, Charles Williamson, S. H. Witherspoon, George Moone, W. S. Turner, L. J. Alexander, M. L. Dawson, T. T. Williams, E. C. Clark, W. M. Smith, J. W. Burwell, I. C. Lee. The present pastor, Reverend J. A. Avery who is a dynamic speaker and an outstanding lead-

er. He is interested in all phases of denominational life and his church contributes regularly to Christian education and mission.

The present church officers are as follows: Deacons — Chairman, Ernest A. Betts, Junious Betts, William Akins, Joe N. Cotton and W. T. Jones. Trustees — E. A. Betts, Chairman; James Norris, Joe N. Cotton German Collier, Harry Betts. Mrs. Wilbert Cotton, President, Missionary Circle. Mrs. Georgia Betts, President, Usher Board. Mrs. Aleo Booker President, Y. W. A. Club. Mrs. Yvonne Burt, President, Senior Choir. Miss Jean Burt, President, Junior Choir. Dwight Cotton, President, Junior Church. Mr. William Akins, Superintendent of Sunday School and is also Clerk of the Church.



HOLLY SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH

# Jones Chapel Baptist Church

Fifty years ago, around 1925 some members from two churches, Riley Hill and Flat Rock decided to build a place of worship. Mr. Williams gave a piece of land for a church site. The people in the community went to work giving of their time and labor, trees and money and built a plank structure. Some of these early leaders were Reverend June Jones, who was elected the first pastor. After the building was completed, they gave the name Jones Chapel Baptist Church.

During Reverend Jones tenure, the church made great progress. The church building was used for the community school. Mrs. Lizzie Foster Askew was one of the first teachers.

Reverend Jones was a devoted minister and served until 1933. He was succeeded by the Reverend Hurley Sanders who served only one year. The Reverend Avery Horton followed and the church made great progress under his leadership.

In 1940, Reverend Isaac Lee was elected pastor. Under his leadership the wooden building was renovated with brick. The membership grew rapidly. The choirs and other organizations were started.

Reverend Lee served faithfully until his health failed. In 1963 the Reverend Grover W. Horton, who had been assistant minister, was elected pastor. Reverend Horton is still a member of the Riley Hill Baptist Church, and is doing a good job in the ministry. The membership is growing and improvements are being done around the church.

Through the years, persons who have made contributions by serving on the deacon board, some who have passed on to their reward are Deacons Jeff Jones, Jean Jones, William Jones, Charlie Young, Harvey Evans, Dan Robertson, Handy Robertson and Tom Watkins. Other deacons who are still with us but are unable to serve are Henry Grisel, Lawrence Wray, William Perry and Charlie Peppers. Deacon Otis Williams served on the board of deacons for a number of years, but reunited with Good Hope Baptist Church, his home church. The present deacons are Jeff Jones, Calvin Robertson, Oliver Robertson, David Tyler, Thomas Tyler, Paul Persce'l, James Watkins and Wilbert Stewart.

Many other members have made great contributions to the church, but space will not permit us to record their names. We do thank God for all of them.

The Jones Chapel Baptist Church is located 3½ miles east of Knightdale on the Buffalo Road.



# History Of Jones Hill Baptist Church

The exact date and circumstance of the constitution of the Jones Hill Baptist Church is unknown. The church is believed to have been founded sometime in the latter part of the eighteen hundreds. It is believed that Reverend Edd (Ned) Rice was the first pastor and perhaps was in the organization. At first, a small group of dedicated believers met together in homes in this community, Spring Hope, ten miles east of Zebulon, just off highway 64 east. After assembling together for some time in homes, they desired to have a church building very much. Their prayers were answered by a donation of a plot of land, donated by Mr. Isaac Jones.

After receiving the plot of land to build the church, they still had a long way to go. While waiting for a church building, they would held service under bush arbors. This humble place of worship did not discourage these dedicated Christians. They kept on toiling and looking forward to the day when they would have a more suitable place in which to worship. Sometime later they built a small log church. Reverend Rice was still pastor and leader. As the membership increased, a frame church was erected. Several additions have

been made. More recently a basement was erected where kitchen facilities are available.

Down through the years, Jones Hill has had some strong ministers to serve the church and community.

Reverend W. W. Watkins served as pastor from 1910 through 1912.

Reverend Robert Hill served as pastor from 1913 through 1915.

Reverend L. T. Christmas was pastor from 1922 through 1925.

Reverend G. W. Todd was pastor from 1925 through 1928.

Reverend E. M. Sanders was pastor from 1929 through 1930.

Reverend J. M. Jackson was pastor 1939 through 1940.

Reverend H. D. Eaton was pastor 1940 through 1945.

Reverend A. A. Morrissey was pastor 1947 through 1948.

Reverend Avery Horton was pastor from 1946 through 1949.

Reverend C. C. Jones was pastor from 1951 until his death in 1969.

Reverend William Giles assisted Reverend Jones while he was ill, and after his death, Reverend Giles

was elected pastor of Jones Hill Baptist Church and has served since.

Some of the early Deacons were:

H. W. Jones  
F. K. Heggins  
W. W. Dunn  
T. H. Minga  
L. W. Williams

The next set of Deacons were:

J. E. Perry  
D. H. Dunn  
H. E. Clemons  
R. C. Wheelers  
H. A. Clemons

These were followed by:

Horace W. Jones  
H. W. Heggins  
L. J. Stone  
Arteria Wheelers  
J. R. Dunn

The last group of Deacons to be ordained were:

S. B. Dunn  
W. M. Jones

Our present pastor is Reverend W. M. Giles, Raleigh, North Carolina. Mrs. Bernice Bridgman is our church clerk and Deacon W. M. Jones is church treasurer.



REV. WILLIAM GILES



MEMBER OF JONES HILL BAPTIST CHURCH



# A Brief History Of The Juniper Level Baptist Church

The Juniper Level Baptist Church located south of Raleigh, North Carolina in Panther Branch Township was organized June, 1870 by nine members from the New Bethel White Church near Garner, North Carolina.

The first structure was made of logs and the minister was the Reverend S. D. Salter, who served until 1889. The church entertained the Wake Association that year. The board of trustees were J. I. Walton, T. B. Leach and John Tomlinson, Sr.

The Reverend Peter Mallory served as minister from 1890 until 1897, under his supervision, a plank church was constructed with one door.

During the administration of Reverend William Ellerbe who pastored from 1898 until 1914, a small frame building was constructed.

The years 1915-1925, Reverend A. T. Price was minister. The present church was built. The first choir under the direction of John Leach, Jr. was organized also an usher board was organized which Vance Smith served as president.

Reverend L. E. Johnson pastored from 1926 until 1931.

The years 1932-1942, Reverend H. D. Eaton was minister. It was under his leadership, the educational department of the church was established.

The church was remodeled and brick veneered during the administration of Reverend C. H. Heath who served as pastor from 1943 until 1957.

Reverend Isaac Horton was minister 1957-1959, two acres of land was purchased in front of the church, hard wood floors, ceiling, furnace and lights were installed.

Reverend G. A. Jones, present minister began serving in 1959, the entrance to church completed, piano and pulpit furniture were purchased; rest rooms were built and building across from church repaired.

Present officers are W. R. Smith, Robert Wilder, Willie Sapp, Nathaniel McClain, W. A. Myatt, Thomas Leach, Mrs. Bessie Hood as mother of church. Mallie Holloway, member of trustee board.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Bessie Hood  
Mr. Walter Smith  
Robert Wilder, Secretary

## I OUR PASTORS

1. Reverend W. M. Ellerbe — 15 years. He is now deceased.
2. Reverend A. T. Price — 10 years  
He did some work on the church. He is now deceased.
3. Reverend Lee Johnson — 8 years  
He finished the church and layed the cornerstone. W. R. Smith was the Secretary.
4. Reverend H. D. Eaton — 10 years
5. Reverend C. H. Heath — 15 years  
He veneered the church in brick.
6. Reverend Isaac Horton — 1½ years  
He did the over head work. He put a new floor and heat in the church.
7. Reverend G. A. Jones — 2 years  
He bought school house and land. He finished the house were it is now.

## II PRESENT ORDAINED MINISTERS

1. Reverend T. B. Smith
2. Reverend B. C. Morgan (deceased)
3. Reverend Ransom Johnson
4. Reverend J. I. Walton (licensed)
5. Reverend W. Bates

### III PRESENT DEACONS

- |                      |                 |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Robert Wilder     | 5. Willie Sapp  |
| 2. W. R. Smith       | 6. Lattie Hood  |
| 3. Eddie Jones       | 7. Thomas Leach |
| 4. Hulon Morgan      | 8. Walter Myatt |
| 9. Nathaniel McClain |                 |

### IV DECEASED DEACONS

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Henry Turner    | 4. R. B. Leach   |
| 2. M. W. Johnson   | 5. Nimbuck Smith |
| 3. Furman Rand     | 6. Andrew Smith  |
| 7. Charlie Marable |                  |

### V PRESENT MOTHERS OF THE CHURCH

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Lula Leach  | 3. Lillie Adams |
| 2. Bessie Hood | 4. May Marable  |

### VI DECEASED MOTHERS OF THE CHURCH

- |                 |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Lucy Leach   | 3. Roxie Furner  |
| 2. Mellisa Rand | 4. Pollie Walton |

### VII PRESENT SECRETARIES

John Allen — Andrew Brown

### VIII PRESENT SECRETARY-TREASURER

Robert Wilder

### IX PAST SECRETARY

Isabel Adams



Left to Right: Standing — W. R. Smith, Mrs. Bessie Hood, Pastor G. A. Jones, Mallie Holloway, and Willie Sapp.

Second Row — Nathaniel McClain, Robert Wilder, Walter Myatt, and Thomas Leach.



## Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church

The Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church of Knightdale, North Carolina was founded by Dr. Henry Martin Tupper, president and founder of Shaw University in the year of 1877. Some of the early leaders during this early period were Richard Perry, Leon Smith and Rubin Tupper. Early meetings were held in a fame house near the Neuse River. This early meeting place was known as the Crabtree Baptist Church.

After a year of earnest labour, Reverend Harmon Pair was elected as pastor. Some of the early deacons were Eli Smith, James Buffalo, John Evans, William Sewell and Walter Tate. The present church site was given by Walter Niles.

A church building was erected where two roads crossed and the name was changed from Crabtree Baptist Church to Malaby's Cross Road Baptist Church.

Reverend Harmon Pair was re-elected pastor the second time and served until his death in 1928. Reverend Sylvester Hall followed Reverend Pair. He was succeeded by Reverend Robert Crockett. Others who followed were Reverends V. T. Williams, J. H. Clanton, Otis Dunn, Nylous Avery, A. A. Crum, L. B. Hockday and our present pastor, the Reverend J. A. Jones. Reverend Jones has served the church for the past twelve years. The physical structure has undergone several improvements under his leadership; the church has been bricked veneered, art glass been installed in the windows, central heat and air have been installed and interior toilet facilities have been installed. The present membership is 363 persons. The present property has improved in value. The spiritual side of the church has also improved.

Pastor, Reverend G. A. Jones

W. Rogers, Chairman of Deacons

Jerry Cotton, Chairman of Trustees

Ida Perry, Chairman of Finance

Mrs. Queen Tyler, Church Clerk



## Merry Grove Baptist Church

Merry Grove Baptist Church was destroyed by a tornado in 1927. Reverend William Short of Middlesex, North Carolina was the pastor. It was rebuilt, September, 1927. Soon afterward, Reverend Short resigned. Reverend W. L. Wilson was elected. He resigned after serving a while. Reverend Essex Henry of Raleigh, North Carolina served until Reverend J. W. Watson of Middlesex, North Carolina was elected. He resigned due to bad health.

Deacons were Deacons Alex Pierce, Aaron Wright, Ruffin Sanders, W. B. Wright.

Reverend B. V. Alston of Youngsville, North Carolina was elected and served for 17 years. Deacons during this time were Deacons Alex Pierce, Aaron Wright, Thomas Bland, Roosevelt Wright, Worley Pace, James Pierce, Earl Wright, and Jasper O'neal. Mothers, Sisters Theolia Pierce, Perlle Mae Wright, Christeen Bland, Olevia Wright, Aldoria Peace, Ella Wright, and Catherine O'neal.

Reverend Horton, Raleigh, North Carolina, now serving, as pastor. Deacons are A. C. Morgan, Eddie Turner, Jasper, O'neal and Earl Wright. Mothers are Sisters Dorothy Morgan, Glendorah Turner, Catherine O'neal and Flossie G. Wright, Trustee, Brother Fred Pierce.

# History Of Martin Street Baptist Church — Raleigh, North Carolina

(1869-1974)

Martin Street Baptist Church was founded in the year of 1869. A group of Baptist men and women living in the eastern part of the City of Raleigh banded themselves into a Baptist interest group, in order to have a place of worship in their neighborhood. The distance to the nearest Baptist Church, at that time was more than a mile away. The means of transportation were poor and on many occasions these people were denied the privilege to worship on Sunday.

The first meeting places for this small group was in the homes of its members. This being a small mission, the cost of operation was greatly reduced. Ministers from surrounding churches were called in to give messages or sermons to this group. Worship service was held in the afternoon in order to secure help from ministers and other church members, also in the afternoon, Sunday School Class was conducted.

In 1870, this church called a young man, Reverend Thomas Edwards to serve as its first minister, and from that time on everyone began to realize that this new church was born to live.

The first church building was erected between 1870-1877. This was a small one room building that served the needs of its members until it was later enlarged and moved a few feet to where the former parsonage is today.

Between 1900 and 1910, this congregation purchased property across the street from the old church, and by 1911 the erection of a new church building was started under the leadership of Dr. Coleman. Dr. Coleman saw the foundation laid and the walls about four feet high.

Reverend R. E. Wimberley came to the pastorate in 1918, and through hard work led the membership into the new church the third Sunday in May, 1919. There were several ministers who contributed to the building of this church between the pastorates of Dr. Coleman and Reverend Wimberley.

In the year 1928, Reverend V. T. Williams came to our church and served until 1943. During his tenure the membership grew to about 350. The property of the church was greatly improved as well as adding much Spiritual leadership to the congregation.

In 1943, the Reverend Paul H. Johnson was called to serve this church as pastor. Reverend Johnson, a young man, and recent graduate of the Shaw University Divinity School, moved in and has remained with us until this day.

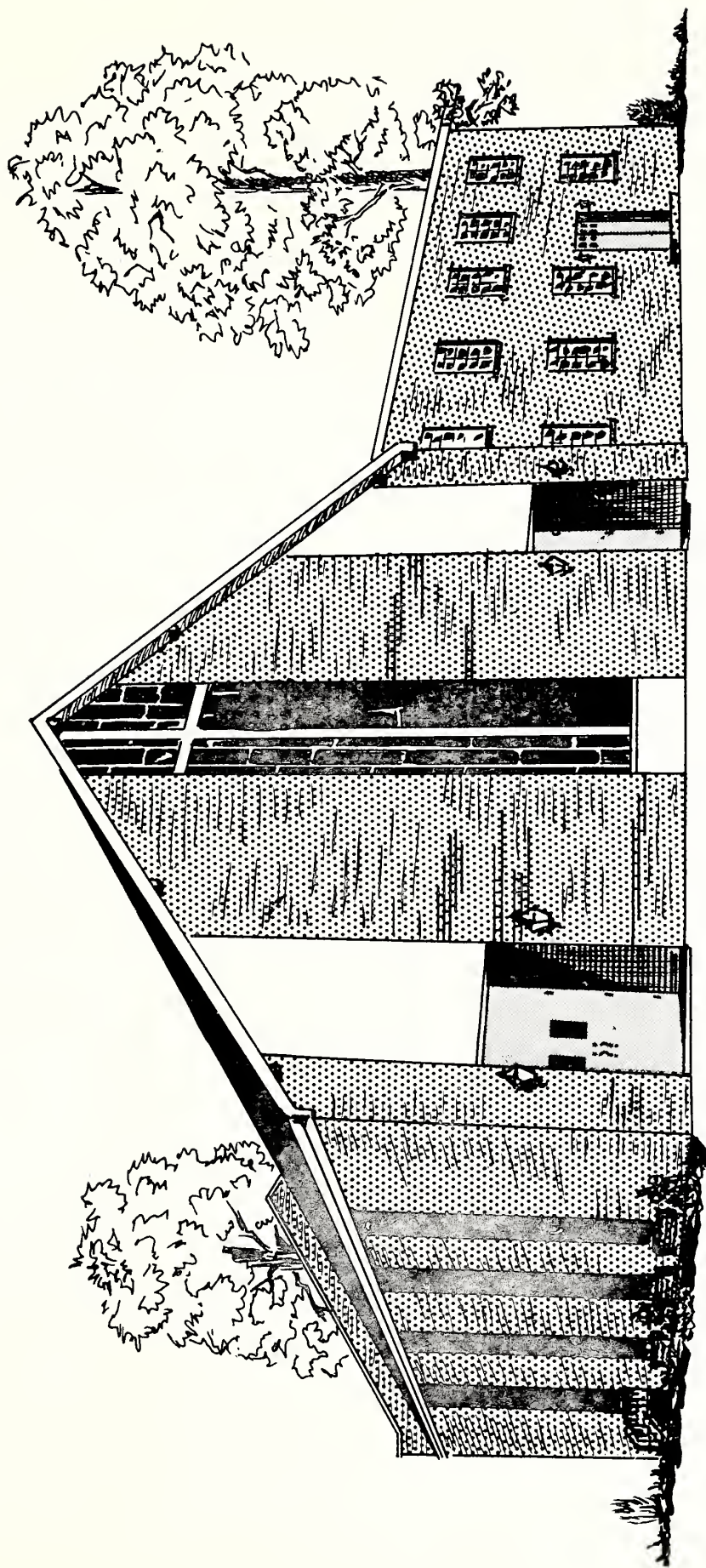
In 1953 the Education Building was enlarged and in 1965, the sanctuary was rebuilt and the education building renovated. The sanctuary and overflow will seat 750 for a single worship service.

There are 1100 names on our membership roll. The church property is valued at \$500,000.00. In 1943 the church operated on a budget of \$3,500.00. In 1974, the church's budget is \$95,000.00.

The following ministers served during the past 105 years. Reverend Thomas Edwards, Reverend Robert Shepherd, Reverend Samuel Sanders, Reverend A. T. Price, Reverend W. S. Wyche, Reverend C. C. Clark, Dr. W. T. Coleman, Reverend Charles Mayes, Reverend Elais Wimberley, Reverend C. C. Staton, Reverend V. T. Williams and Dr. Paul H. Johnson.



DR. PAUL JOHNSON, was called in 1943 to serve Martin Street Baptist Church.



MARTIN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH



## Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church

The Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church, Corner of Quarry and Tipton Streets, Raleigh, North Carolina, is the outgrowth of a Sunday School started by Mrs. Bessie Holloway in 1942. At first the people met in a frame building about 30 ft x 45 ft. Reverend and Mrs. Samuel R. Spencer made the land available for church purposes.

Later a larger building was constructed. Before city water was available in this area, the people got water from a spring in what is now called Joe Louis Park. The first baptizing was in a cement hole on the site. The Raleigh fire department furnished the water and about thirty-five candidates were baptized.

Dr. George W. Moore carried the church into the Wake Baptist Association. Reverend C. C. Jones preached the ground breaking sermon. During the late sixties and early seventies, Reverend Spencer led the congregation into brick veneering the church. Several of the original members have gone to the great beyond: Sisters Bessie Holloway, Mary Perry and Brothers Tom Wilson and Nel Perry.

At this writing, Reverend Spencer is still the pastor of the church.

# New Bethel Baptist Church

Rolesville, North Carolina

As in the case of most Negro Churches of this early period, the Negroes were in white churches. Such is believed to be the case of New Bethel, Rolesville, North Carolina. The first attempt to organize an independent church took place in what was called Temperance Hall, Rolesville the Second Sunday in April, 1867.

At this first meeting a roll of black members was prepared. It is thought that these persons were already in the White church. Their names are as follows: Isaac Jefferys, Peter Leigh, George Leigh, Charlie Montague, James Montague, James Freeman, Arthur Alston, Bolden Dunn, Daniel Freeman, Sarah Dunston, Gaston Hodge, Peggie Freeman, Rhody Watkins, Mary Giles, Mary Jones, Moriah Montague, Dicey Mosey, Silas Perry, and Terry Powell.

We understand the first church was built of logs. The ministerial leadership was the Reverend Beverly Stamford, and the Reverend Alexander Ellis. Reverend Stamford served as pastor from 1867 to September, 1868. The Reverend G. W. Harris, the first Moderator of the Association, from 1868 to 1870. The Reverend J. (Joshua) Perry served from 1870 to 1872. The Reverend G. W. Perry from 1872 to 1900 a period of twenty-eight years.

Some of the early deacons of the church were J. C. Jeffery, K. P. Young and Thomas Lumford. Frank Baker was an early secretary and P. B. Leigh was treasurer. We are sure there were other officers during the church's long history, but many cannot be placed at this time. It is very regrettable that much of the history of this church, like so many black churches will never be known.

Dr. J. J. Worlds served New Bethel from 1900 to 1913. Dr. Worlds was also pastor of the first Baptist

Church, Raleigh, North Carolina at the same time, and served as the Moderator of the Wake Baptist Association about the same time.

The church was without a pastor from 1913 to 1915. It seems that different ministers supplied the pulpit during this period. The Reverend D. S. Saulter served from May 22, 1915 until December 1919. The Reverend J. W. Powell served from July 1920 through the later thirties. The church moved from a log church to a frame structure. Under the leadership of Reverend Powell the wing across the back of the church was started.

The Reverend C. H. Heath was called to the church in 1940 and served until his death in 1963. Much work was done under the Heath administration. The church was bricked-veneered and other improvements were made. Following the death of Reverend Heath, our present pastor, Reverend W. A. Morgan, was called to the church. He has given a good account of his ministry. He lead the church into building the Education Building, with class rooms, kitchen and dining area and other modern accommodations.

The deacons of the church at the writing of this history, 1968 are Walter Young, Chairman; Benjamin Ferrell, Secretary; Lewis Montague, Robert Jefferys, Romas Dunn, Elliott Pearson, and Lynwood Lucas.

The Trustee Board is composed of J. C. High, Chairman; James Brooks, Henry Bostic, James Knight, Leatha Allen, Carlton Miller and Luther Jeffreys.

The Banking Committee members are Walter Young, Benjamin Ferrell and Romas Dunn.

The Financial Secretary is Mrs. Bertha Horton and Recording Secretary is Mrs. Lanis Fowler.



REVEREND W. A. MORGAN



PASTOR AND OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH

# New Providence Baptist

Fuquay-Varina, North Carolina

In the year of 1860, the Catawba Springs and Wake Christian Churches voted that all Blacks were free to attend churches of their choice. Blacks had been members of the Catawba Springs Christian Church since 1825. These members came together and formed the first Providence later became the church's cemetery. The bush harbor was used for many years.

Some of the early members were Mary Johnson, Caroline Jones, her daughter; Andrew Johnson, Barnabus, Maria Utley, Cherry Rowland and twenty-two others of the Rowland slaves.

Reverend Saloman, the first pastor, served from 1860-1864. Reverend W. H. Franks, the next pastor, served from 1864-1879. He became secretary to the Baptist Association in the year of 1866. He appointed a special committee of one; Reverend B. W. Allen, a white minister, to help form a Black Association and missionary. Reverend T. B. Edwards was elected to serve in 1879. During his tenure, plans were discussed to build a permanent church structure. In 1885, Reverend Edwards went to the Association to obtain \$50.00 to help build the church. Funds were contributed and much hard work was performed by the members. The new church was built next to the location which would later become the site of the present brick structure. The first permanent structure was plank and was named the New Providence Baptist Church. Reverend Edwards remained with the church through the earlier months of 1893. Reverend David S. Salter came during the latter months of 1893 and served through 1901.

The following pastors are listed in the order in which they served: (Years are listed when known).

Reverend M. F. Jones (1901-1905), Reverend Jim Avery, Reverend Millard Jones, Reverend William A. Jones, Reverend M. V. Cannady, Reverend I. P. Piarsal, Reverend C. B. McThey, Reverend Millard Dawson, Reverend J. E. Jenkins, Reverend V. T. Williams (1933-1936), Reverend W. M. Smith (1936-1943), Reverend W. W. Faulcon (1943-1954), Reverend G. A. Jones (1954-1965), and Reverend F. L. Preddy who served three months of 1966. Thereafter, the church was without a pastor for twelve months. Reverend B. V. Alston came to serve in 1967 and remains as the pastor.

The pastor and members of the church saw the need for a new church to accommodate the expanding membership and the various needs of the church.

In the spring of 1963 plans were put underway for the new structure. With the prayers and diligent work of all concern, the new brick building was completed within three years.

On October 10, 1971, the pastor, members and friends met in the old church and readied themselves for the march to the new church located on the same grounds. At precisely 11:00 A.M. the procession led by the pastor, Reverend B. V. Alston, entered the new sanctuary.

"With God's help, we have done much — In years to come we hope that the works we performed will be a help to those who follow and enable them to become better Christians."

New Providence Baptist Church was blessed with 86 members when the First Baptist Convention was held. There were 50 female and 36 males. The present membership is 314.

Compiled by:

Mr. Robert Leach,  
Chairman of Deacon Board  
Mr. Frank Sutton,  
Chairman of Trustee Board



# New Providence Baptist



REVEREND B. B. ALSTON



# A Brief History Of The Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

The Mount Pleasant Baptist Church was founded in 1873, as a small mission house known as Stoney Hill. A few years later, a frame building was constructed across the road from its present site in northern Wake County on the Falls Road. The church then became known as Mount Pleasant Baptist.

Some of the names among the founders and early leaders are: Mr. Isaac Lassiter, Mr. Jack Dunn, Mr. Nevelson Hunter and others. According to our records, the ministers succeeded as follows: Reverends Sam Sanders, G. Harris, Bill Jones, John Ligon, G. W. Moore, C. C. Clarke, Avery Horton, C. H. Heath, and Herman Forte.

Early Deacons are: Samuel Thompson, R. Dunn, Sr., R. Dunn, Jr., E. W. Hunter, C. Lassiter, F. Jones, L. Gill, W. Garson, D. Allen, Iley Dunn, and others.

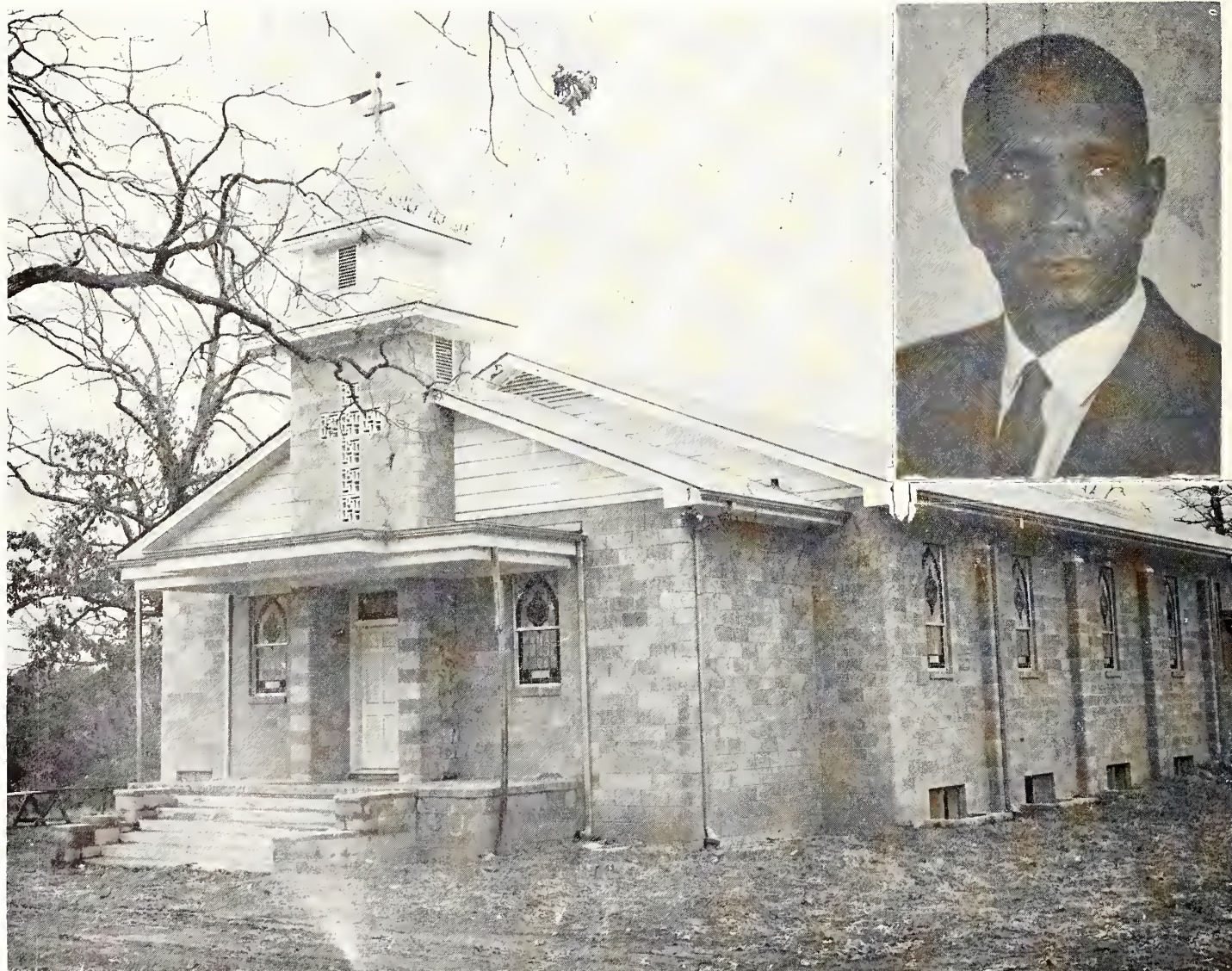
Clerks were W. H. Ray, Oscar Allen, Charles Lassiter, E. D. Thornton.

Early Mission Leaders were Sisters N. A. Hunter, Amanda Dunn, Marie Bailey and Irine Massenburg.

Our building program started under Reverend C. H. Heath who worked diligently until his death. His program is moving toward completion under Reverend Herman Forte, who succeeded Reverend Heath.

The present congregation is 350, and value of church property is \$75,000.00.

Reverend Herman Forte, Pastor; Otis McMichael, Chairman of Deacon Board; O. P. Dunn, Chairman of Trustee Board, and Edward Thornton, Church Clerk





# History Of The Oak City Baptist Church

In 1873 the church which is now Oak City Baptist Church was organized and built over on the hill right by the cemetery to the north.

It was located in a grove of small oak trees. It got its name because of those oak trees. The structure was small and was built of rough lumber.

The names of those in charge of this work were as follows: Brothers Gilford Branch, Ausborn Branch, Lafayette Ligon, Wash Ligon and a few others. The church remained there about five years. It was decided later to move it to its present site.

The members, not many in number, were very loyal. A local preacher came now and then to preach. The first pastor to be called was the Reverend Caesar Johnson and he was considered a very brilliant man but he did not stay very long.

The next pastor was Reverend Mabry. Some of the deacons in charge at that time were the same men who were the founders of the church: Wash Ligon, Lafayette Ligon, and Brother Gilford Branch.

A Reverend John Jones came in as pastor after Reverend Mabry left. And he was followed by the Reverend Jack Poole but Reverend Poole died soon and a young man who was a member of the church helped when there was no preacher. Later this young man became a great preacher. He was the Reverend Robert Jones. He was called the Reverend Bob Jones whom all of us knew.

Then came the Reverend William Elerby, a saintly old gentleman. His was a long and successful leadership of about twenty-two years. The deacons who served with this pastor were Brothers William Patterson, Monroe Jones, Peter Cain, Wesley Powell, John Ligon, (known as Bud Ligon), Lee Smith, John Fort and later Brother Sherman Harris.

In 1897 the Church (Oak City Baptist) was destroyed by fire, and during the absence of the building the church meetings were held in our school building.

Some of the great women of that day were Sisters Lettuce Evans, Jane Rowe, Caroline Crump, Chainy Kittrell, Lydia Jones, Adline Patterson, Ann Powell and Pennie White.

These women and men went about the business of replacing the building with a great deal of interest and enthusiasm. And after years of faithful service the good Reverend Elerby resigned. Then the Reverend J. W. Jones who is now at Fayetteville Street Church came to us for a few years and he was called to another field.

We had Reverend Plummer but his stay was less than a year.

Rev. George Moore came on the scene. Many changes were made and young deacons were appointed and ordained. Deacons Jones, Arnold, Parrish and Harris were made during Dr. Moore's time and when he had done a very good work he went to greater fields. By this time Oak City was beginning to be hard to please, but the Lord was still in His Holy Temple and saw fit to send us a very excellent pastor, Reverend G. S. Stokes and for seventeen years, he gave us very excellent service. The community was very fond of him. Now he is the Moderator of our Wake Baptist Association.

Reverend C. R. Trotter of Raleigh, North Carolina came to us in 1943 and his leadership was so pleasant that those years were passed without much realization of the time. He did a great work and carried on in a great way trying to build the church. Reverend Trotter served our church for seventeen years. A pastor, a great Christian and Brother, we were thankful to have had him for a pastor.

Reverend Trotter was succeeded by Reverend James Williams, Reverend Leotha Debnam and Reverend John Davis.

We now have as our pastor, Reverend Clyde B. Walton of Garner, North Carolina. He has worked exceedingly hard to carry on and improve our church, both spiritually and financially. Many physical features have been acquired under his leadership.

We are looking forward to many more years of progress by the wonderful leader.



# History Of The Oak Grove Baptist Church

## New Hill-Holly Springs Road

The Oak Grove Baptist Church was born out of a need for Christian nurture and teaching. There were several families living in this community who needed to have been in Sunday School. Their children needed Christian instruction and they needed the fellowship. Mr. and Mrs. C. H. McCullers opened their home for weekly prayer meetings and for religious teachings. Other families who joined in this type of services were the Fred Harris, the George Daymond family, the Ben Reade family and the Steven family. Reverend Smith and Reverend Marvey Bland shared in this religious work. This type of house to house meeting went on from about 1944 to 1949.

In the spring of 1949 Reverend Marvey Bland led this little band into the Constitution of a Missionary Baptist Church. The church

site was a donation from a Mr. Mark, a white citizen who owned land in that community. Mr. McCullers approached Mr. Mark concerning a site several times. Finally, he agreed to let the church have some land.

According to a deed dated January 29, 1950, Mr. Mark conveyed to C. N. McCullers, Benjamin Reade and Lonnie Degraffenreid; trustees for the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church land consisting of two acres and one tenth. Mr. Mark told Mr. McCullers that he wanted to do something for the colored in the community. This was an outright gift. Mr. John Scott suggested to call the church Oak Grove because it was situated in a grove of oak trees.

The Reverend Marvey Bland was the first pastor and served for several years. It was under his leadership the first building was

begun. The church joined the Wake Baptist Association in 1949.

Reverend Bland resigned in the year of 1952 and soon there after, Reverend Clyde B. Walton was elected pastor. He served until 1955. All the while a cinder block edifice was being constructed. Each minister leading the congregation a little further. The Reverend Avery Horton was elected pastor in 1956 and served for eleven years. He lead the people in the completion of some of the work already begun. After Reverend Horton resigned, the Reverend J. M. Carraway served for a short period of time, a little less than a year. The present pastor, the Reverend T. S. Harris was called in 1968. He is attempting to build up the spiritual and physical side of the church.

History supplied by Mrs. Ora McCullers.

# The History Of Old Liberty Baptist Church Of Franklin County

Route 1, Louisburg, North Carolina

The church came out from Flat Rock White Church in 1865. 1871 the land the church is built on was given by Dr. Timberlake of Wake Forest.

The church was named Liberty which means freedom. The first pastor was Dr. Royal of Wake Forest, North Carolina. He preached at Flat Rock in the morning and at Liberty in the evening.

The first Deacons were Deacon Bryant Cooke, Deacon Issac Cooke, and Deacon Sam Harris. In 1873 Flat Rock paid Liberty fifty dollars for their interest in church house.

The second pastor was Reverend Limus Taylor of Shaw University. They taught public school in the church. Some confusion over who they wanted to teach came up. In 1878 the pastor, and two deacons and sixty-five members left and later they organized New Liberty. And this church became Old Liberty. Deacon Bryant Cook and a few members were left.

The third pastor was Reverend Sam Morgan who pastored twenty-nine years. Deacon Sidney Wiggins and Deacon Clemons were ordained.

The building was rebuilt by the fourth pastor, Reverend Johnson of Raleigh, North Carolina. He died while pastoring. 1904 Brother Willie Debnam was ordained a Deacon. Brother James Debnam was ordained in 1910.

The church staked off the cemetery and Brother James Bumphus' body was the first one buried in the cemetery.

The fifth pastor was Reverend Huggins of Shaw University. Sixth pastor was Reverend James Tabron and Deacon S. D. Alexander was ordained and a Deacon from Little Zion, Deacon Clarence Wall, joined the church. Deacon Willie Debnam was ordained to the Ministry. The church was rebuilt in 1920. Brother James Mitchell was the carpenter.

The seventh pastor was Reverend James Powell. The eighth pastor was Reverend McBroom of Oxford, North Carolina. The ninth pastor was Reverend James Chavis. In November, 1928, Deacon L. H. Jeffery and Deacon Ivey Mitchell were ordained. The tenth pastor was Dr. Tom Peace of Oxford, North Carolina. August, 1936, Deacon Charlie Glover and Deacon George Glover were ordained. 1936 Brother Vick Alston was ordained to the ministry. The eleventh pastor, Reverend Sam Harris of Oxford, North Carolina. The twelfth pastor was Reverend A. M. Wiggins, our present pastor since 1950. 1952, Deacon Connie McKnight, Deacon L. W. Black, Deacon David Merritt, and Deacon Ervin Wortham were ordained.

1964 the church was rebuilt as a brick church.

THIS HISTORY WAS GIVEN BY SISTER LANNIE S. DEBNAM.



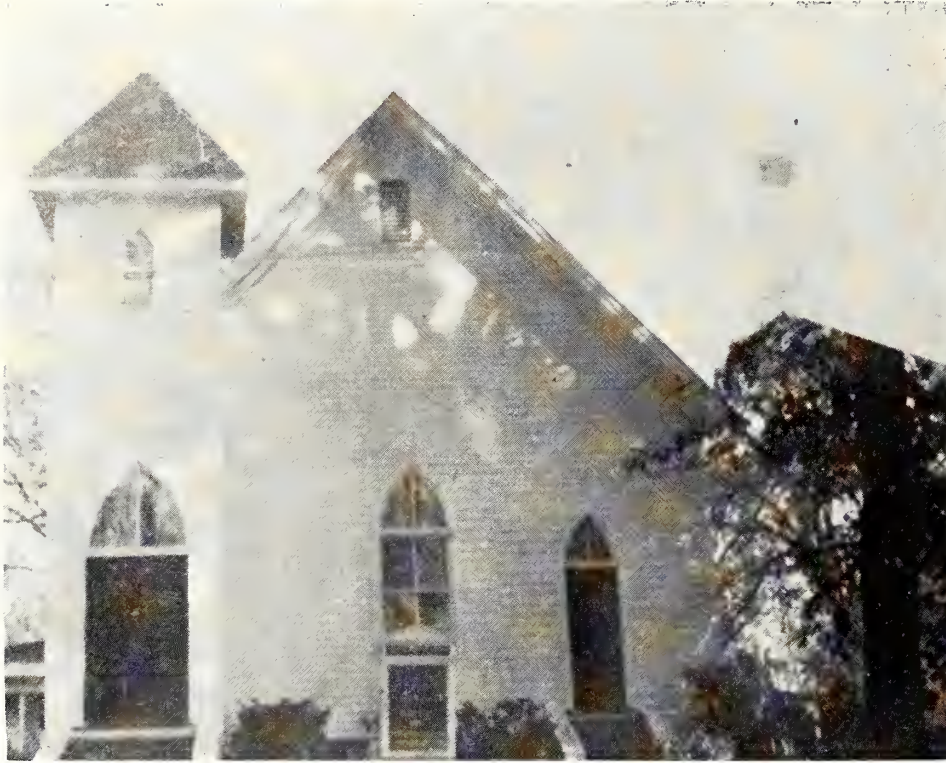
REVEREND A. M. WIGGINS



THE SUNDAY SCHOOL DEPARTMENT



# Oberlin Baptist Church



PICTURE OF FIRST FRAME CHURCH

Ministers who served from the beginning to the present are: Reverend Plummer T. Hall; Reverend Fullwood, Reverend N. L. Horton, Reverend J. F. Mason, Reverend R. K. Mason, Reverend S. H. Wither-

spoon, Reverend H. C. Jones, Reverend A. A. Morrissey, Reverend K. P. Battle, Dr. J. L. Tilley, Reverend V. S. Brown, Reverend McCroary, Dr. G. D. Davis and Reverend J. P. Dempsey.

Approximately fifteen years after the Emancipation Proclamation Reverend Plummer T. Hall was instrumental in organizing a Community Church in the 2000 block of Wade Avenue. After a number of years a new church was built in the 1300 block of Oberlin Road and was called First Baptist Church of Oberlin. In 1885 a third church was built at the present site, 806 Oberlin Road, and was named Hall's Chapel.

In the 600 block of Oberlin Road was located Mount Miriah Baptist Church. Acting on the advice of Dr. N. F. Roberts, on July 6, 1912 Trustees Edward Smith, Henry Andrews, Robert Hunter and John Sears officially merged Hall's Chapel and Mount Miriah. The resulting church was named Oberlin Baptist.

In January, 1955 the frame building was destroyed by fire. A new building was soon erected and dedicational service was held in October, 1955.



PICTURE OF PRESENT CHURCH AND PASTOR, REV. J. P. DEMPSEY



# Olive Branch Baptist Church

Olive Branch Baptist Church of Wake Forest, North Carolina, had its early beginning sometime before 1879 on what is now the campus of the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary.

It is worthy of note that Olive Branch came out of Wake Forest Baptist Church, both in the form of guidance and finance. Tension generated by the Civil War conflict had not overcome the Spirit of Brotherhood.

In 1879 the present site of Olive Branch Church was given by the deed dated October 15, 1879, which bears the name of the following trustees: J. T. Thomas, J. F. Phillips, S. S. Powell, Henry Dunston, and Joe Gill.

How long the church remained on the Wake Forest College campus is not known for certain; however, one pastor, Reverend George Harris, was pastor of the church sometime before 1879. His tombstone in the cemetery at Olive Branch Church is dated prior to that time.

The present structure of the church is the third building on the site. It was constructed in 1955. When the church was built this time, as always, the Wake Forest Churches gave considerable assistance.

Olive Branch Church has held a unique position in the total welfare of the community since its early beginning. Because of the size of its auditorium, many groups gathered at Olive Branch. Likewise, the church gave its blessings to all efforts toward community improvement — social, political, and spiritual.

This church is noted for having long pastorates. Below is a list of ministers who have served the church:

Reverend George Harris	Reverend M. C. Ransom
Reverend Tom Edders	Reverend H. Y. Cheek
Reverend Gus Shepard	Reverend Mays
Reverend P. T. Hall	Reverend S. L. Suitt

The complete list of names of the deacons who had served the church could not be secured. The list below is known to have served:

Mr. Hordon Lucas	Mr. Otha Dunn
Mr. Samuel Dunn	Mr. Willie Dent
Mr. Jack Thompson	Mr. Sidney Wiggins
Mr. Joseph Massenburg	Mr. Henry Dunston
Mr. William Thomas	Mr. Alex Mitchell
Mr. Stephen Taylor	Mr. Robert Thomas

## The Present Deacons

Mr. Robert Massenburg	Mr. Edward Jones
Mr. Isaac Harris	Mr. Alfred Dent
Mr. Walter Mitchell	

The names of the trustees could not be found except for the first group who signed the deed.

## The Present Trustees

Mr. Edward Jones	Mr. John P. Alston
Mr. Edward Alston	Mr. John Boone
Reverend W. W. Moore	Mr. Eugene Smith, Sr.
Mr. Robert Massenburg	

## Olive Branch Baptist Church



OLIVE BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH STANDS ON JUNIPER STREET,  
WAKE FOREST, NORTH CAROLINA



REVEREND S. L. SUITT

# Pleasant Grove Baptist Church

Wendell, North Carolina

1863-1967

In the early 1800's the determination of a little band of ex-slaves guided by the Reverend Andrew Pearce, united their efforts to better prosecute the work of Evangelism and Kingdom building. It was from these meetings that the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church was born. The Rev. Pearce organized a group of slaves, known as the Prayer Band. Prayer Band Services were held in slave huts until the huts became too small. In 1863, Reverend Pearce and his congregation of slaves moved to a bush harbor, and became known as Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. The first location of the Church was at Gillis Springs, a site east of Wendell on the present 64 Highway between Wendell and Zebulon, joining the property now owned by Willie Harris. Services were held there until, a former slave owner, Bill Richardson, gave a small plot of land to be used for church and school.

In 1865 Reverend Pearce and his followers erected a crude hut on the present site now occupied by the Carver Elementary School. On September 1, 1903 the church people purchased more land joining the land that had been given, and built a better building. This building was used for church services only. In 1910 this building was destroyed by fire, and was replaced by a more appropriate church edifice, during the Pastorate of Rev. A. T. Price. This building was sold for cash to Lucy Morgan, the mother of the Church, and the widow of the late Deacon Sidney Morgan. Although the church dates back to the days of slavery, there has been only 10 Pastors. The Pastors were: Reverend Andrew Pearce, the grandfather of the late Hattie Pearce Bobbitt; Reverend Essex Blake, Reverend Grady Capps, Reverend A. T. Price, a Minister and Teacher. Reverend Price was the most outstanding Pastor, for he served for more than 50 years. The Church sustained a great loss at the passing of Reverend Price

their great leader. The members of the Church were reluctant to accept any one as Pastor, but was relieved in 1929 when Reverend Haskins of Durham, North Carolina, accepted the pastorate. He served only a few years. During Reverend Haskins' pastorate, the Ushers Board was organized.

In 1945 Dr. George S. Stokes came. During his 15 years of pastorate, the present edifice was built. In 1960, Reverend John Flemmings of Raleigh, North Carolina, served well as interim Pastor for about a year.

In 1961, Reverend Joseph Morgan of Chapel Hill, North Carolina came. During his short Pastorate the Church progressed rapidly. A modern Church Organ was purchased under his supervision.

In October, 1962, Reverend A. H. Parker of Durham, North Carolina became our present Pastor. His initiated plans are to renovate the present Sanctuary and build an Education Department.

The Sunday School can proudly say that the Sunday School has made great progress through the dedicated work of the following Superintendents: Sonny Hayes, Peter Thorpe, Berry Etheridge, Arthur Jones, David Strickland, Waymon Morgan, and at the present (1967) Rody Perry.

The Church has also done much for beautification and comfort. In 1951, modern heat was installed, 1953, running water and restrooms were added, 1956 modern pews and pulpit furniture; 1965 stain glass windows.

Some of the first Deacons were: Andrew Pearce, Brink Todd, Mack Todd, Sidney Todd, Amos Todd, Tom Morgan, John Debnam, Sidney Morgan, Furney Morgan, William Richardson, Peter Thorpe, Samuel Adams, Berry Etheridge, Charlie Lyon, Eddie Perry, Jake Harris, Tom Harris, Romey Crews, Macon Parham, and Joseph Bullock. The present Deacons are:

Chairman, Waymon Morgan, Morris Smith. David Strickland, Otis Gadison, Willie Harris, Eshban Lyon, Harold Crews, and Howard Perry.

The Church has always shown concern for the progress and needs of the community. In 1933 the Church sponsored Adult Education Classes. Shaw University supplied the first two instructors. They were Dr. Benjamin Quarles, who taught Negro History and Professor Harlan who taught a class in Citizenship.

Five of our pastors were products of Shaw University and presently (1967) several students are enrolled there. The Church sponsors Boy Scout Troops, N.A.A.C.P., and the Seventy Plus Club composed of Senior Citizens, organized by Ruth H. Morgan.

Some of the women who pioneered in Mission work were: Eddie Ferrell, Sarah Whitley, India Strickland, Mariah Morgan, Lucy Morgan, Annie Bullock, Julia Mitchell and Hattie Pearce Bobbitt. At the present Laura Mitchell and Gloria Peoples are leaders for the Senior and Junior Missionary Circles.

We know not what the future holds  
Since fleeting sorrow flows.

It is hoped that the future will  
bring

Many blessings as of the past  
The day of opportunities lie ahead  
for all who seek its reward  
There is an answer to all problems  
if we put God first.

## HISTORIANS

Ora M. Webb  
Ruth H. Morgan  
John D. Bobbitt



# Pleasant Grove Baptist Church



PLEASANT GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH LOCATED IN WENDELL, N. C.



# History of Riley Hill

One hundred years ago in 1872, a group of Christians from four churches, among them were Rolesville, New Bethel and Wakefield Baptist, gathered under a bush harbor, a few paces from the present building, to counsel the establishment of a church which came to be Riley Hill Baptist.

In the group were Reverend J. J. Worlds, Reverend George Perry, Gabriel Montique, Willie High, Wash High, Henry High, Tom Ellis, Gaston Hodge, Henry Hopkins, Dorsey Perry, Sr., John Tyler, Byse Robertson, Jeff Jones, Sr., Andrew Young, Sr., Ruffin Ferrell and Wesley Jones. The Reverend George Harris was the first pastor. The early church soon built a wooden building in which to hold their worship services.

The Reverend Harmon Pair succeeded Reverend Harris as pastor, a position which he held until his death fifty years later. Under his able leadership the church developed. The Hope Club and the Sunshine Band were organized. The church became the focal point of the community and its Christian influence was manifested throughout the community in the form of progressive development. During this administration a beautiful white wooden church building was constructed.

In 1922 a committee of Deacons, Guyon Perry, Ransom Carpenter and William Hodge, were charged with the responsibility of recommending a pastor to succeed the Reverend Harmon Pair. From among the many who were considered, the Reverend George Signal Stokes was the choice and he was elected to the pastorate of the church. When Reverend Stokes came to lead the congregation, he was a student at Shaw University from which he received his high school diploma, the A.B. and B.Th. degrees and the D.D. honorary degree.

Under the leadership of Dr. Stokes and the guidance of an able, sincere, and dedicated Deacon Board the wooden church was replaced by a brick church building with a seating capacity for more than five hundred. So many of these sainted souls gave their time,

labor, trees from their woods and paid their assessments to build the church building in which we now worship. In later years an Education Building was added to the brick structure. Being men of good report and of firm judgment who believed in prayer, they had the confidence of the membership and received the support of the community in their effort to foster God's Kingdom here on earth. A result of this was a building and a strong church organization of which all were proud to pass on as a part of their legacy to future generations. The pastor, officers and members were greatly assisted by one who went out from the congregation and became a minister of the Gospel, the Reverend William Henry Rogers, who for many years preached the opening sermon of the annual revival services.

Among the dedicated deacons who have passed on to their reward are: Ruffin Ferrell, Tim Watkins, Verd Dunn, Ransom Carpenter, William E. Hodge, Ollie Upchurch, Dorsey Holden, Jeff Jones, Dorsey Perry, Guyon Fowler, Guyon Perry, Clemmon Hodge, Walter L. Holden, Otha Holden, James Lucas, and Walter Crews, Sr. Deacons Ruffin, Ferrell, Guyon Perry, and Otha Holden served as Chairmen of the Deacon Board.

Among those sainted women who supported the church, through their constant prayers, missionary service and leadership, were Sisters Lucy F. Marriott, Clara J. Ferrell, Cora Robertson, Ann Robertson, Corrina Fowler, Laney Brewer, Agnes Perry, Lula Dunn, Pocahontas Crews, Priscilla Robertson, Lenora Smith, Jennie Horton, Mary Etta Marriott, Eliza J. Perry, and Lenter Perry.

Other persons who, through the years, made their contribution by serving as Clerk of the church where Jeff Jones, Sr., John Ferrell, Stanley Ferrell, Eli Ferrell, Dorsey Holden, Guyon Perry, and Clemmon Hodge.

Deacons Jeff Jones, Sr., Guyon Fowler, Dorsey Perry, and Walter L. Holden served as Treasurer of the church.

Noted for dedication to duty as sexton of the church are Brothers Asbury Dunn, William Horton Joshua L. Perry, Cleveland Rogers, and Luther Smith.

During the hundred years the church has produced approximately twelve ministers of the gospel.

The church is located in a rural area and for many years held church service once a month. Sunday School was held each Sunday. Consequently, the Sunday School has played an outstanding role and made invaluable contributions to the development of the total church program.

The following served as Superintendent of Sunday School: John Ferrell, Stanley Ferrell, and Guyon Perry who served more than thirty-five years. Clemmon Hodge served as Assistant Superintendent. For many years Cole Perry served as secretary and Eliza J. Perry was treasurer of the Sunday School. John Perry, Willie Perry and Johnny A. Young, Jr., were Sunday School Librarians.

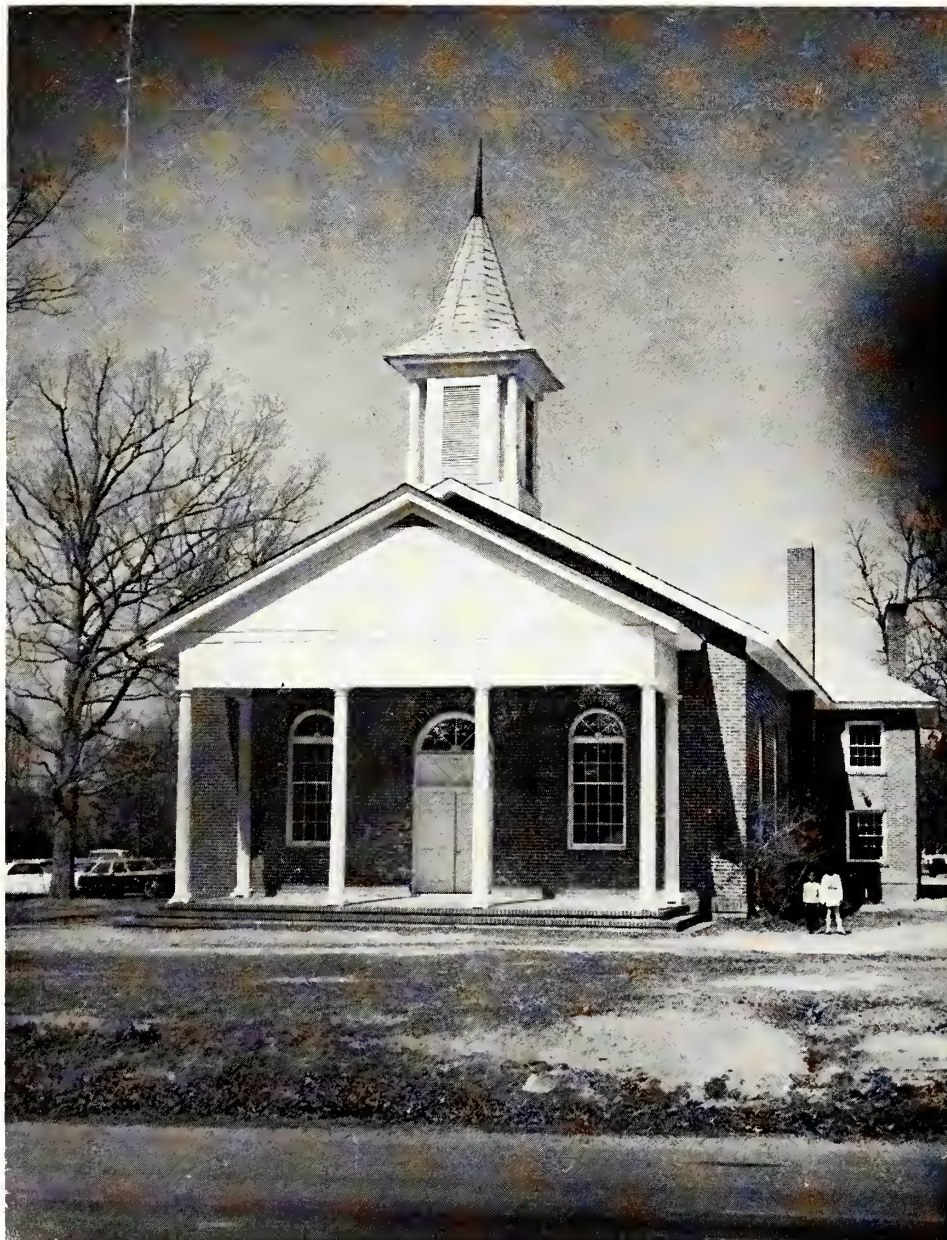
Some early teachers were Henry Ferrell, Lucy F. Marriott, Berry Perry, James Perry, and Lenter Perry, who began holding a rally the first Sunday in October each year to help the beginners class make a financial contribution to the church. The vocal choir played an important role in the Sunday School and church. Edgar Upchurch, Eli Ferrell, Dorsey Holden, Major Horton and Morton Robertson served as chorister.

Many, many more members of the church whose names are not written here have made outstanding contributions and without them we could not have come this far.

Thus we have recorded one hundred years in the life of a great church and mark fifty years of service by our present pastor, Dr. George S. Stokes. May this history serve as an inspiration and a challenge to future generations. Remember, with God all things are possible.



## Riley Hill Baptist Church



RILEY HILL BAPTIST CHURCH, ROUTE 2, WENDELL, N. C.



# Springfield Baptist Church

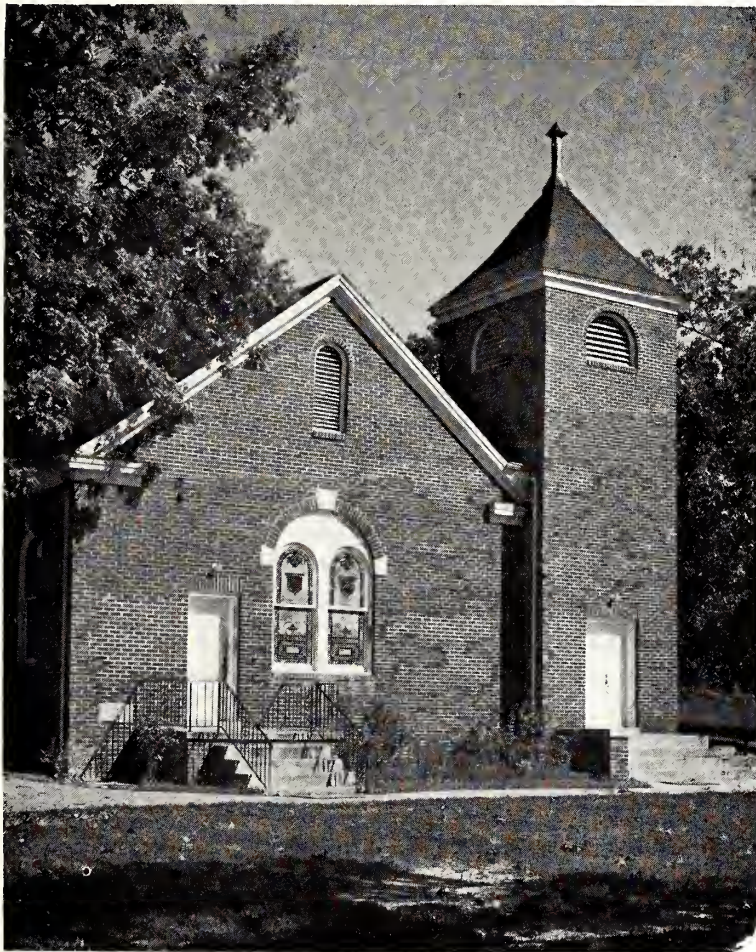
Some 100 years ago a small group of Negroes who were meeting jointly with the whites at Moriah Church at Hileah decided that they wanted a place of worship for themselves. Under the leadership of Reverend Essex Blake of Raleigh, North Carolina, this group met for its first time under a bush arbor near Auburn. With the coming of cold weather the church was moved into Ferrell's Workshop which later became the site for Troy Poole's store.

In 1867, the church located itself at what is presently known as Leland Poole's Service Station. God continued to bless these people and during the 1870's, the present site was secured. On it a log structure was erected. From this the church moved on to the construction of a straight up and down board building. So through the years progress was made and changes

were witnessed until we have the present structure as it stands today.

In addition to Reverend Blake, many great and God-fearing men have been responsible for the growth of this church. Among them are Reverends Alex Jones, Ransom Johnson, Thomas H. Burwell, R. B. Jones, J. W. Ligon, M. W. Williams, O. H. Brodie, J. H. Clanton and W. E. Fgerton, respectively. Each man made his contribution with the most material progress probably being made under the leadership of Reverend O. H. Brodie.

Certainly we feel that this church has played a great part in the development of Christian character. There are others who contributed much for God has been great and wonderful. Truly it presents a challenge for us to help make the next 100 years just as eventful.



ORGANIZED AROUND 1867 — THE SPRINGFIELD  
BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. W. E. FGERTON

## Stokes Chapel Baptist Church – Middlesex, N. C.

Stokes Chapel Baptist Church was organized in 1888. The first two acres of land were purchased from C. J. Strickland for the sum of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). The following names were recorded as trustees: T. S. Stokes, Robert Bissitte, Ashmeal Morgan, and Nealus Fort. It was not very long after the first church was erected before it was destroyed by fire. The members set their hearts and hands to rebuild. Theodore S. Stokes, a life long member of the church gave timber to rebuild a new church, after which the church was named in his honor. We are not told the name of the original church.

It appears that the Middlesex Community was not too thickly settled at this time. The members seemed not to have been too enthused about the project. Brother Fort left the community for Kansas where he became ill with the fever.

In spite of a small membership, T. S. Stokes kept the church goal in his mind. He kept striving and by 1909 enough people had come into the community to have a fair Sunday School. The Sunday School help strengthened the church. We are told that the early building was thirty feet wide and forty feet long, and was built by neighborhood people.

Wakefield Baptist Church, according to Brother T. S. Stokes at this particular time was pastored by Reverend George W. Perry, came down in October, 1909 and helped strengthen Stokes' Chapel. At this time, the Deacons were T. S. Stokes, S. A. Todd, A. I. Wiggins and Ranson Fort. The Reverend N. W. Watkins was one of the early pastors and he served about ten years. The Reverend Clarence Dunn succeeded him and he served for four years. Reverend N. W. Williams followed Reverend Dunn. Reverend P. E. Green followed Reverend Dunn and served only 1 year. Reverend Smith of Raleigh was next elected as pastor. He served for about five years after his health failed him. The Reverend S. H. Witherspoon was the next pastor. He served for about two years, and he too was called from labor to reward. The Reverend A. A. Morrissey was the next pastor, he served until his health failed. The church then extended a call to the Reverend Avery Horton of Raleigh who served for about fifteen years. Reverend Horton resigned and Reverend W. H. Burwell was elected pastor but served only one year. After the one year pastorate of Reverend Burwell, the church decided to remain without a minister for one year. This arrangement did not prove too helpful for the church so Reverend B. H. Closs was elected as Shepherd in 1967. The church has been blessed under Reverend Closs' leadership. He has kept the church in a wonderful fellowship.

This History was written by T. O. Stokes from memory.

T. O. Stokes  
Route 2, Box 4  
Middlesex, North Carolina



# Saint Matthews Baptist Church

In the year 1868, Mr. Rowen Rogers, a white man, gave one acre of land to a group of Negroes who were then members of the White New Hope Baptist Church.

These Negroes erected a long building which they named the Saint Matthew Baptist Church under the pastorate of Reverend George Perry. Under his leadership, the late Charles Jones and Henry Riddick were ordained to the ministry. Reverend Perry served until 1882. At this time the Reverend Harmon Pair was elected pastor. During his administration, the membership had grown such that three acres of land was purchased and a frame structure was erected. His services were spiritually enhanced by the ordination of Tommy Donaldson and John Ivey to the ministry. His pastorate ended in 1922 when he was called to death.

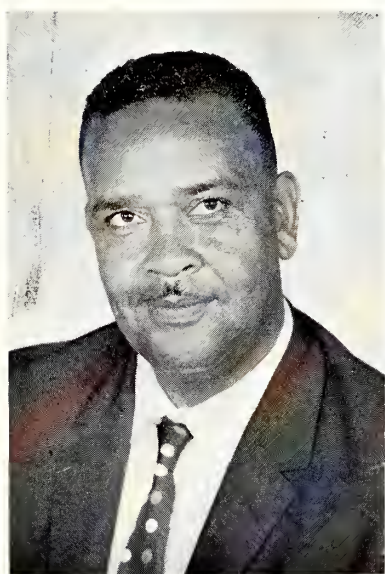
The Reverend A. T. Price came as pastor and served until the year 1930. In the fall of 1930 the Reverend W. W. Smith was elected pastor and served until his resignation in 1949. Under the Reverend Smith's administration, Millard Jones, Sr., was ordained to the ministry.

In May, 1949, the Reverend A. A. Anderson was elected as the pastor and served until December, 1952. The early part of 1953, Reverend L. B. Hockaday became our pastor and served until 1959. Under his leadership the present building was started.

Reverend W. E. Egerton was elected as pastor in 1960 and served until 1963, at which time he resigned. We were supplied by ministers of the Wake Association until 1966 when Reverend J. D. Lockley came as our pastor of which he still holds.

Respectfully yours,

Reverend Millard Jones  
Deacon Robert Rayford  
Deacon Calvin Hunter, Clerk



REVEREND J. D. LOCKLEY



## Saint Matthews Baptist Church



ORGANIZED IN 1872



Evans Jones, James Malone, Reverend J. D. Lockley, Robert Rayford, Calvin Hunter, Reverend Millard Jones, Luther Horton, Arthur Bunch, Uriah Jones, Johnny Dunn.



# History Of Tupper Memorial Baptist Church

## FIRST CALLED BLOUNT STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Shaw University and Tupper Memorial Baptist Church, first known as Blount Street Baptist Church, both have a most interesting history. Both of these institutions were conceived in the mind and heart of Dr. Henry Martin Tupper who was a soldier in the Union Army. Dr. Tupper was born in Manson, Massachusetts April 11, 1831. He graduated from Manson Academy 1855; Amherst College 1859; Newton Theological Seminary 1862; Union Soldier and Chaplain 1862-1865. Tupper married Sarah Baker (Lenard) Lenord of Stafford, Vermont June 25, 1864.

Dr. Tupper said in his own diary: "On the evening of the 10th of October, 1865, Mrs. Tupper and myself arrived in the city of Raleigh, North Carolina with the express purpose of laboring as missionaries in behalf of the colored people." It might be pointed out here that Dr. Tupper and his new bride were some of the first to travel by the Seaboard Railway, as it was making its first run through the City of Raleigh.

"Next morning," meaning October the 11, — "called upon Dr. Skinner, pastor of the White Baptist Church and informed him of my proposed work. He treated me gentlemanly but gave me no encouragement." Dr. Tupper went back to Dr. Skinner sometime later and asked for the privilege of preaching once each Sabbath to the large colored congregation then worshipping in the basement of his church, this request was refused. Dr. Skinner wrote the Home Mission Board to investigate the activities of Dr. Tupper. One would have thought this incident would have served to stop Dr. Tupper, but it only served to encourage him.

We find a deed in "Book No. 24, Page 435 deeded dated February 23, 1866. George T. Cook deeded to T. M. Tupper for \$500.00 the following:

"Beginning at the Corner of Blount and Cabarrus Streets running South with Blount Street, (61) but then East Ninety-five

thence sixty-one feet to Cabarrus Street thence ninety-five feet to the beginning."

Dr. Tupper held his first class in the autumn of 1865. Early records state: "One-half dozen colored deacons and ministers who had their homes in Raleigh were formed into a class for the purpose of learning to read and explain the Scriptures. The room occupied by the class was provided by the Freedman's Bureau and was located in the Guion Hotel now known as the National. Mrs. Tupper also had a class of females which were taught in private residence.

Early in the Spring of 1866, we commenced to erect a building to furnish accommodations for a school and also the Second Baptist Church, which was organized February 17, 1866. The first story of the building was completed in the summer of that same year at a cost of \$1300.00.

We opened school with three teachers on October 15, that same year with 250 pupils, and a night class with over 100 pupils. The school was supported in part by the Freedman's Bureau.

From these humble beginnings two institutions were born. Each to make a lasting contribution upon the state and the world. The story of Shaw University has been told by Dr. Wilmouth Carter in her comprehensive book "Shaw University." I shall say a word more about Second Baptist Church, (Blount Street Baptist Church) and later known as "Tupper Memorial Baptist Church."

There were twenty-two members in the original roll of Tupper, eighteen women and four men. Dr. Tupper was the first pastor. One of the original members of the church was Joel Evans, who was elected one of the trustees in December, 1869. Other early leaders were "Gideon Perry, Jackson Yarborough, Chatam Alexander, Fred Yeargan and Hilliard Williams."

The work of Dr. Tupper in teaching the recent freed slaves

brought contempt by many of the white citizens of Raleigh. Some of these white citizens who objected to Dr. Tupper's work stirred up discontent among some of the members of the church, to the extent that a long bitter lawsuit ensued. One of the allegation against Dr. Tupper was that he was trying to take the property from the poor blacks when in reality the \$500.00 paid on the Blount Street property was Tupper's personal money saved from his service in the Union Army. After six or seven years Tupper won the lawsuit. It was Dr. Tupper's legal fight that gave him the insight to create a law school at Shaw University.

By 1871 Shaw University was well established on its present campus on South Street and the University was taking so much of the time of its founder, that Reverend Augustus Shepherd, one of Shaw's first graduates became pastor. The records show that during these early days, that Blount Street Baptist Church boasted of the largest Sunday School in the state of North Carolina upward to one thousand students.

The Reverend Samuel Fulwilder succeeded Dr. Shepherd. He was formerly pastor of Oberlin Baptist and Mount Pleasant Baptist Churches where he had done a commendable job. During these early days, some of the most able preachers of the state pastored this church. Such men as Dr. N. F. Roberts, Joshua Perry of Louisville, N. C. and Dr. George W. Perry. "The first missionary that went from this state to Africa was Mr. Sherwood Cupps, who served as church clerk while an active member of Tupper Memorial. Brother Cupps went to the foreign field, founded a school and supported it from the proceeds of a coffee farm and thereby opened the way for other missionaries.

Some of God's best ministers have served Tupper Memorial as pastors. Among them were Dr. T. H. Hackney of Chapel Hill; Rever-



## Tupper Memorial Baptist Church



end F. R. Howell, one time state missionary; Dr. N. F. Roberts, Reverend W. B. Scott, under whose administration the church was re-modeled into its present design. This was some time around 1912-1913. Other notable pastors who have served the church through its long history were: Reverend J. W. Ligon, Reverend W. C. Coleman, Reverend Wyche, Dr. D. J. Ceverly, Reverend M. W. Williams, Reverend T. H. Dwelle under whose leadership the present name: Tupper Memorial Baptist Church was born. Other pastors were Reverend Dawson, Reverends W. C. Pope, E. M. Sanders and C. C. Jones.

Some of the deacons who served the church faithfully for a long

period of time were: Brothers Jack Yarborough, Jacob Stancil, Joseph Perry, Charles Caldwell, Burton Perry, Max Yeargen, A. J. Holcomb, Charles Major, Charles Curtis, Ernest Green Edgar Evans, Willie Murray. The latest deacon added to the Board Melvin Davis.

Tupper Memorial has been blessed with a number of ministers who did not serve as pastors but were good members of the church and worked hard for its success.

Some of the ministers in this category were: Dr. T. D. Christmas, Dr. S. N. Vass, Reverend J. E. Holbert, Reverend Higgins, Reverend J. E. McGrier.

The Reverend M. R. Boone was

called to Tupper Memorial Baptist Church in the early summer of 1956. It was under his leadership the church was renovated and brick veneered. Reverend Boone's tenure was very short, but successful.

The Reverend D. N. Howard followed Reverend Boone. His tenure was also of short duration. Reverend R. W. Styles followed Reverend Howard.

At present, the pastor of Tupper Memorial Baptist Church is the Reverend Leotha Debnam, Sr., who is doing a magnificent job.

The material for this History was furnished by Mrs. Harriet S. Jones. A portion re-edited by C. R. Trotter.



BLOUNT STREET BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE DR. TUPPER  
HELD EARLY CLASSES.



# Union Grove Baptist Church

YOUNGSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA

Union Grove Baptist Church was organized in 1860 in (Freeman Township) Franklin County, North Carolina. The first meeting place was a "Bush Harbor" near the Youngsville Elementary School. Reverend Louis Holden was the first Pastor. Early members were: Robert Emory, Rederick Price, Louzina Price, Stephen Holden, Candis Battle, Soul Mitchell, Frances Mitchell, Violet Fuller, Lizzie Alston, Robert Thomas, William Williams, Portis Winston, Frank Hayes, Helen Kearney, Dock Holden, Hillard Debnam, Haywood Winston, Bill Mitchell and many others.



Reverend J. B. Wilson

On the first of January, 1880, William T. Young and wife, Caroline Young of Franklin County, North Carolina, Youngsville Township. Solid to the trustees of Union Grove Baptist Church, (namely) A. W. Mitchell, Portis Winston, Dock Holden, Moses Alston and Allen Alston, a track of land for Thirty Dollars (\$30.00) to build a church, a small frame structure was built in northern Youngsville, Franklin County, North Carolina near the present sight.

This building was destroyed by fire in 1900. The church was rebuilt in 1908. In 1901 we had a membership of 135 members.

As early as 1889 Union Grove Baptist Church was in the Wake Association.

In 1909 the Union Grove Church sent as delegates to Wake Association, R. P. Emory, S. M. Mitchell and R. H. Holden.

Pastors since the organization of the church were: Reverend Joe Fuller, Reverend Tom Edwards, Reverend J. J. Worlds, Reverend William Plummer, Reverend W. T. Coleman, (1916) Reverend L. A. Brooks, (1937) Dr. O. L. Sherrill of Statesville, N. C. — now Executive Secretary of General Baptist Convention of North Carolina, Reverend H. Y. Cheeks, (1944), Dr. O. E. Dunn, Reverend Willard Crews, Reverend Avery Horton, Reverend O. L. West, (1953), Reverend O. H. Brodie, (1963), Reverend J. B. Wilson, our present minister (1970), Reverend Johnny Carlton Sherrod a native of Wayne County. Truly we have had good outstanding ministers and we have come a long way by the help of God. Under the leadership of Reverend O. H. Brodie the church was bricked and more land acquired.

Under the leadership of Reverend J. B. Wilson we were in the midst of an intensive building program. We were able to purchase and install a furnace, for the church and buy an organ and church furniture.

Church officers were Deacon Henry Wilder, Chairman of Board of Deacons, Donald Bass, chairman of Trustee Board, Sister Lucille Bass, Financial Secretary, Sister Flora Holt, Treasurer, Sister Willie Morgan, Clerk. Under the leadership of Reverend Sherrod we were able to continue to move forward in our work physically and spiritually.

We have almost completed our Educational Department and kitchen unit and dining hall — increased the insurance coverage on church. The present insured value of church property is \$50,000.00, membership 250 and various other accomplishments.

We feel very proud of our progress, surely the Lord has blessed us. At present Union Grove has a Senior Choir, Junior Choir, also a Tot Choir.

We have services on the 2nd and fourth Sundays in each month.

Union Grove is working for a better and brighter future.

Reverend J. C. Sherrod, Minister; Deacon Herman Bass, Chairman of Deacon Board; Deacon George Cannady, Jr., Chairman of Trustee Board; Sister Queen Daye, Organist; Sister Lucille Bass, Financial Secretary, and Sister Willie Morgan, Clerk.

# Union Grove Baptist Church





# Woodland Chapel Baptist Church



REV. WILLIAM GILES



THE CONGREGATION

## History Of The Woodland Chapel Baptist Church

### Route 1 — Wake Forest, North Carolina

From the best information available, the church was organized in 1869. The Reverend Louis Holding was the first pastor. The second pastor was Reverend Sam Southern, the third pastor was Reverend Sam Morgan. The fourth pastor was Reverend William Plummer. The other pastors were Reverend T. B. Edwards, Reverend Alex Jones, Reverend Clarence Dunn, Reverend W. M. Smith, Reverend G. W. Todd (was called to pastor two times Reverend Eli Thompson) Reverend C. C. Jones was elected twice also and served 15 years, Reverend Charlie W. Wall was the pastor 17 years, Reverend J. W. Brigman 7 years, Reverend W. M. Giles 6 years.

The deacons that are now serving are Robert Estes, Willie Fogg, Jesse Gill, William Hockady, Charles Penny and Joseph Gilmore.

# History Of The Wake Chapel Baptist Church

1899-1966

A long time ago about 68 years ago, there was no church in the community only a one room log cabin school. This crude building served as a place for public school, preaching, prayer meeting, Sunday School, and penny marches, called storms at that time. This building was located between Lodge No. 3 and the present church of Route 9, Raleigh, North Carolina on the Falls of Neuse road near Millbrook, North Carolina.

As the congregation grew and souls were saved, the people began to see the need of a church. Finally a group came together in the year 1899 and organized a church and named it Wake Baptist Grove. The late J. W. Jones was the first pastor. The late W. E. Egerton from Oberlin Baptist, the first Deacon, the late Louise Johnson, the first trustee from Mt. Pleasant, Isaac Taylor the first treasurer from First Baptist, Raleigh and Henry Pulley from Mt. Pleasant first secretary. From there plans were made to raise finance to purchase land and erect a church building.

After a period of time, land was purchased and a small building was erected, that portion starts where the seats stop in the rear and extends to where the Amen corner begin in the present church. The name was then changed from Wake Baptist Grove to Wake Chapel.

Reverend J. W. Jones served 39 years. The first five baptized were Rosa Ellis, Dozier Sapp, William (Jack) Powell, the late Elizabeth (Belle) Taylor, Amada Ellis Jones and Ella Hockaday. Some of us

knew and saw the oldest member baptized by Reverend J. W. Jones, he was William (Billie) Holmes who was 105 years old. With the cooperation of a few members and friends the Amen corners and vestibule were annexed to the building. The first baptizing pool was built down by the side of the road about 150 feet north.

The late Carolina Rayford saw the unsanitary way that the Lord's Supper was served, that was, everybody drinking from one glass. She took the problem to the other sisters and all agreed to purchase the first communion set. Then a Missionary Circle was organized and Sister Rayford was elected president.

All of this was accomplished during the leadership of Reverend J. W. Jones. Some of the charter members were Ben Debnam, Lun Fuller, Willie Hodge, Henry Ellis, W. R. Rogers, West Lunsford and Willie Bryant.

Some of the Mission Sisters were: Martha Rogers, Rosa Ellis, Amanda Egerton, Rosa Lunsford, Gastie Jones.

Mrs. Delia Rayford Lunsford was the first organist. She served 25 or more years as organist and music director.

Reverend James A. Avery served as pastor for eight years. Many souls were saved and baptized which added to the membership. The Pastor's Study, choir loft and choir room were annexed to the building. The first Vacation Bible School was conducted. The Junior Church was established, a church bus was purchased and three pulpit chairs.

Reverend L. B. Hockaday served faithfully as pastor for one year. There were some more members added.

Reverend W. B. Lewis served as pastor for two years. The little boy from Shaw as he was affectionately called, but he proved himself a big boy in Christ. The knocks were stepping stones to higher grounds. The bricks placed around the building makes the church look like a new building. It was God's help through a faithful few members and friends that enabled the miracle to happen in less than 30 days. The corner stone is a reminder.

Reverend B. H. Closs was pastor for seven years. Many improvements were made such as a well bored for water, hard wood floors, baptizing pool was built near the church, and a new room on the building.

Reverend R. B. Miles served as pastor for 2 years. The present pulpit set was purchased and pews were purchased also during his leadership.

Reverend A. L. Morgan, Youngsville, North Carolina is the present pastor. He has begun to plan for a better tomorrow.

Reverend A. L. Morgan,  
Pastor, — 1967  
Dr. Gus Williams, Chairman,  
Deacon Board  
Mr. William Langston,  
Chairman, Trustee Board  
Miss Hattie B. Rayford,  
Chmn., Historical Committee  
Mrs. Amanda Young,  
Finance Secretary  
Mrs. Pearl Curtis,  
Church Clerk



# Wake Chapel Baptist Church



REVEREND A. L. MORGAN



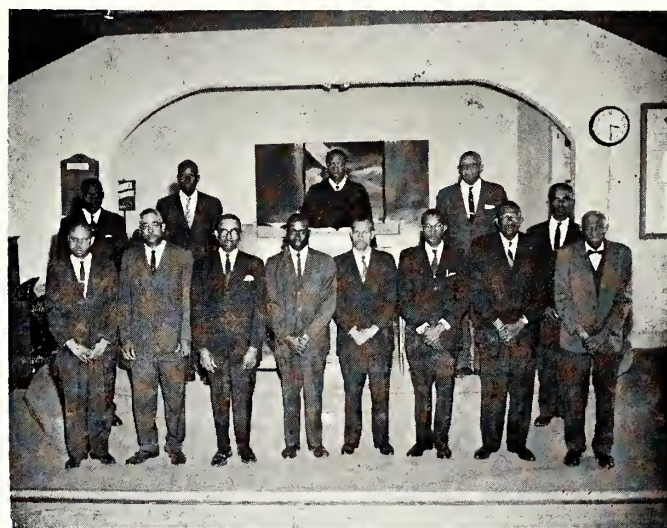
WAKE CHAPEL BAPTIST CHURCH



# Wake Piney Grove



CHURCH, PASTOR AND OFFICERS



PASTOR AND OFFICERS

The Wake Piney Grove Church was organized in 1867. It was later changed to Wake Baptist Grove. Because of fewness in membership, they were unable to build a building for worship service. They held services under a bush arbor for their first year of service.

In 1868 they elected the Reverend Essex Blake of Raleigh, North Carolina as the first pastor. Under his leadership they constructed a small lumber building with boards running verticle. Services were held every third Sunday until a storm demolished the building.

The board of deacons: Chairman, Allen Haywood; Elias Allen, Tom Haywood, Ranson Jones, and the Reverend Blake rebuilt the church on its present site.

Rev. M. V. Cannady of Neuse, North Carolina was chosen pastor in 1917 at this time the building was reversed. The pulpit to the railroad, and the back to the highway as it stands today. Reverend

Cannady was making rapid progress as pastor, but illness overtook him and he expired, October of 1920.

Mr. Willie Johnson served faithfully as church clerk for more than thirty years.

Our next pastor was Reverend J. M. Powell of Wake Forest, North Carolina who served loyally. Under his leadership, in 1928 the church built a pool for Baptism, he served for twenty years.

The Reverend George Stokes who was with us for more than thirty years, modernized the present building interior and exterior. In 1945 the corner stone was laid.

After the resignation of Reverend Stokes, Reverend Clanton served us temporarily until the church elected a new pastor.

Our newly elected pastor, Reverend C. P. Briley, reorganized the church auxiliaries, September 18, 1944, and installed lights in the parking area. Mr. James Cofield

resided as church treasurer from 1942 until 1966. Presently serving is Mr. William Rogers, treasurer, Chairman of Deacon Board, Mr. Nathan Cooke, Assistant Chairman, Mr. Dexton Avery.

The present Deacon Board Clerk is Mr. Lewis Cooke and Church Clerk, Mr. Norman Adams, served from 1959 and is present Clerk.

Other pastors who served us were the late Reverend Essex Blake, Reverend W. M. Elaam. Reverend W. A. Jones, Reverend Alex Jones, Reverend Robert (Bob) Jones, Reverend Elum, 2 years. Reverend W. S. Wyche, Reverend Millard Jones, Reverend A. T. Price, 1 year, Reverend M. V. Cannady, Reverend James Powell, Reverend G. S. Stokes, 33 years. The present pastor is Reverend C. P. Briley who began his pastorship, September 18, 1964.



# Wakefield Baptist Church, Zebulon, N. C.

(1865-1965)

Early in the period of Reconstruction, 1865, a group of baptized believers in Christ met and organized a church under the leadership of the Reverend Ed (Ned) Rice. The first church was a rude structure made of logs. The roof consisted of planks overcovered with tree branches, and it was called Bush Arbor Baptist Church. It was located on the Rosinburg Road which is now highway 64 running through the city of Zebulon, North Carolina. Later, the group desired a better place in which to worship; through the providence of God and under the leadership of the minister a lot was purchased on the Strickland Road about one and a half miles north of where the present church building now stands. A frame structure was erected on the new location and was named Wake Chapel Baptist Church. The church was beautiful in situation, standing in the center of a grove of oak trees which provided shade for the oxen mules and horses, the only means of transportation in those early days.

As our fore-fathers advanced in meager education and higher spiritual attainment, they looked forward to an even brighter day. The ministers who immediately succeeded Ed (Ned) Rice were Essic (Essex) Blake and Green Williams who served the church with zeal and fortitude. From 1868 to 1901 the Reverend Peter Malay, his brother, George Malay, and the Reverend George W. Perry served as pastors. In 1901, Reverend Perry and the congregation decided to move the church to Wakefield, a very progressive village even at that time, sixty-four years ago. A lot was purchased and during the construction of the church building on the new site services were held in the school house which was known as Hickory Grove Academy. Following Reverend Perry were the Reverends Price and G. W. Moore serving successively as pastors of the Wakefield Baptist Church. During the pastorate of Reverend Moore the church was destroyed by fire, but under his determined leadership a new building was erected.

Among the ministers of the church, prior to 1945, were Dr. C. E. Askew, an educated and eloquent preacher who at the same time served as pastor of the First Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. During his pastorate at Wakefield the membership was greatly increased in members, spiritual fervor, and financial success. New Pews were purchased and paid

for at a cost of \$3,500.00. Successors of Dr. Askew were the Reverends L. T. Christmas, M. L. Dawson, Dr. W. C. Somerville who is now the Executive Secretary of the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Convention, A. A. Morrissey, and A. W. Morgan who was a theological student at Shaw University in Raleigh.

In 1945 the present minister, Dr. William R. Strassner, was called to the pastorate of Wakefield Baptist Church to serve simultaneously with his position as Dean of the School of Religion, Shaw University. He brought to the church a constructive and progressive leadership. Before the last frame building was destroyed by fire, Dr. Strassner had already led the membership in the erection of the present brick structure which is equipped with new pews and pulpit furniture, Cathedral lights, maroon carpeting, and art glass windows. The building includes rooms for church school classes, small group meetings, choir, pastor's study, and a basement with facilities for social occasions. An organ has also been installed, and the standard of religious worship and Christian living has been appreciably raised. The material development of the church and its facilities has been done at a cost of over \$75,000.00 and is practically paid for. Dr. Strassner, having served the church during his position as President of Shaw University, and continuing to serve along with his present position as Coordinator of College-Community Relations at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia, has served Wakefield Baptist Church longer than any previous minister.

As we review a century of progress we pay tribute to those intrepid men and women of the past who laid a firm foundation upon which we build for the present and the future. Among the dedicated officers of the church through the years the names of Jack Richardson, Lewis Richardson, Henry High, Willis High, Richard High, Isaac High, S. H. High, E. C. High, Oglitha High, Joseph Hall, Branch Hopkins, T. L. Ellis, T. B. Bunn, Haywood Merritt, T. B. Ellis, McKinsie Horton, and L. D. Dunn come to mind. After serving their day and generation these men have gone to their reward but their memory lingers on.

The present officers, Isham High, U. G. Jones, Elijah Moore, Linwood Dunn, Philmore Dunn, J. R. Horton, Arthur Perry, Harold Taylor, Roosevelt Perry, Benjamin Perry, and Ivan Malone are carrying on in the rich tradition of their sainted predecessors.



# Wakefield Baptist Church



WAKEFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH — ZEBULON, N. C.



SOME OFFICERS AND PASTOR, DR. W. R. STRASSNER, RIGHT



**WAKE BAPTIST CHURCHES NOT INCLUDED IN HISTORY**

**PHELPS CHAPEL**

**FIRST BAPTIST, MIDDLESEX**

**MACEDONIA**











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